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AND

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BIRTH.

On the 18th December, at Shamren (Canton), the wife of HANS SCHUBERT, of a daughter.

DEATH.

On the 28th November, Mrs. LOUISE H. PIERSON, of the American Mission Home, Yokohama, aged 64 years.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The English mail of the 11th November arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Parramatta*, on the 9th December (28 days); the American mail of the 9th November arrived, per P. M. steamer *China*, on the 9th December (30 days); and the German mail of the 13th November arrived, per N. D. L. steamer *Preussen*, on the 13th December (30 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The subscriptions to the South African War Sailors' and Soldiers' Families Fund being raised at Hongkong amounted at the date of the last published list to \$57,783.

Intelligence has been received that the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of the State of New York has just rendered a decision in favour of the defendant in the case of the Bank of China, Japan and the Straits, Limited, v. Morse, thus reversing the judgment obtained by the Bank against Morse some months ago in respect of his alleged liability as a shareholder to pay calls made when the plaintiff company was reconstructed.

Further cases of plague have occurred at Kobe.

The *N. C. Daily News* says:—"It is reported in Peking that the reparation demanded by the French for the decapitation of the two French officers at Kwangchowwan has been accorded by the Chinese and the incident is closed. The terms are:—The dismissal of the Viceroy of the Two Kwang. The decapitation of the guilty Prefect. The payment of an indemnity of Tls. 80,000 to the families of the officers killed."—This speedy settlement sounds rather too good to be true.

About three o'clock on the afternoon 30th November, says the *Japan Herald*, Count von Leyden, the German Minister, was descending the Kinokuni-zaka in Kojimachi, Tokyo, in his carriage, when, half-way down the hill, a Japanese, seemingly a *soshi*, aged 30 or so, who had come from the direction of the Akasaka Palace, suddenly approached the carriage and tried to assault the Minister, who, however, escaped the threatened danger, as the driver whipped up the horses, leaving the assailant behind. Soon afterwards a policeman came in view, but too late to arrest the assailant.

A correspondent writing from the Bismarck Archipelago, in German New Guinea, under date 12th November, gives particulars of recent massacres of traders at the Admiralty Islands in that quarter. The natives there, dangerous already, have become still more dangerous by gaining possession of fire-arms through capturing trading stations and trading vessels. Early in October, they cut off a schooner and killed the master, Dattie by name, and many of the crew. At the end of the month, another schooner narrowly escaped capture. Successive massacres at these islands have alarmed the settlers in the Bismarck Archipelago, who urge the instant punishment of the guilty parties. The natives have been emboldened by the impunity attending previous outrages.—*Straits Times*.

The *Straits Times* of the 7th December publishes the following particulars of the death of Sir Charles Mitchell:—"We have to announce with deep regret the death, at half past eleven o'clock this morning at Government House, of His Excellency Sir Charles Bullen Hugh Mitchell, Governor of the Straits Settlements, at the age of 63. Yesterday afternoon, His Excellency presided at a meeting of the Executive Council, at Government House and was to all outward appearances in good health. A little later than three o'clock in the afternoon, however, Sir Charles was seized with paralysis. Dr. Simon, the Principal Civil Medical Officer, was immediately communicated with and hurried to Government House, where in the meantime everything had been done for the comfort and relief of His Excellency. The Governor recovered slightly and was conscious up to half-past four, when another and more severe stroke seized him. He became unconscious and remained so throughout the night. The gravity of the Governor's condition was gradually intensified, and Dr. Simon consulted with Dr. Von Tunzelmann, the Colonial Surgeon. The medical gentlemen were unceasing in their attention, but His Excellency continued in an unconscious condition until life reached its lowest ebb, and at half-past eleven o'clock today he expired, having remained unconscious eighteen hours.

The following special telegram dated Labuan, 5th December, appears in the *Singapore Free Press*:—"The wildest rumours prevail that a general rising of the natives on the West Coast and in the interior is about to take place. The movement of the police give colour to these rumours. Although Labuan is said to be the place marked out for attack, yet it has been almost denuded of police. The reticence of the officials causes considerable alarm in the community.

The *American (Manila)* says:—"By order to the American authorities Linchanco, who was arrested some time ago, was deported on the steamer *Yuensang* for Hongkong on Tuesday, 5th December. Linchanco was Aguinaldo's right hand man when the war broke out and was given power of attorney by the chief rebel to draw two hundred thousand dollars out of the Hongkong Bank, to supply the insurgents with guns, ammunition, and food. He arrived here and was arrested at his home. Upon search, cartridges, papers, and other valuable articles were found, showing conclusively his complicity in the present rebellion. The money he was supposed to draw from the Hongkong Bank was placed there as a portion of the money paid by the Spanish Government for Aguinaldo's treachery.

From time to time reports have reached the outer world during recent years of trouble on the island of Ponape between the Rev. Mr. Doan, an American Protestant missionary, and his converts on the one side, and the Spaniards on the other. Mr. Doan had established his mission before the Spaniards asserted their active sovereignty over the island—which they did at the time of the dispute with Germany regarding the ownership of the Caroline Islands—but he was afterwards compelled to remove. There have recently been reports of circulation of renewed trouble on the island. Mr. Thomas, a master mariner who is well acquainted with the Carolines was interviewed on the subject by the *American*, a Manila newspaper, and he gave the following account:—"The natives of Ponape were all Protestants, and were living quietly when Spain arrived there with equipments for a new Catholic church. This would have been entirely satisfactory, but the Spaniards insisted upon erecting their building next to the Protestant church, and Mr. Doan, who had been in service with the natives for over thirty years, made serious objections, so the work was stopped. Shortly after this the Spanish sent several transports over to the island loaded with soldiers. They were landed with difficulty, and, after having a severe engagement with the natives, they returned to the ship. The next morning the natives were prepared for them, and had secreted themselves behind trees and bushes on each side of the narrow path which leads from the shore to the interior. The Spaniards came along in single file, and it would have been an easy matter for the natives to have slaughtered them, but the command to fire was withheld. After the Spaniards had looked over the surroundings they returned to their ship, not firing a shot. Later Spain sent another fleet over and drove Mr. Doan and his followers of the Ponape Island, on to the Kansie or Strong Island. Mr. Thomas says that he thinks there is no cause to be afraid of any outbreak by these people, as he thinks them one of the most peaceful and law-abiding people on any of the islands.

SUGGESTIONS FOR A FORWARD COMMERCIAL POLICY IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 14th December).

Mr. GARDNER in his address to the London Chamber of Commerce on the 26th October said so many things that are true that we cannot afford to allow to pass unnoticed the few errors he made in connection with the foreign trade of China. Putting aside minor mistakes which we purpose dealing with later on, the one which particularly calls for notice and which, coming as it does from an old China hand like Mr. GARDNER, may be expected to carry weight with it, is his reference to the transit certificate system, where he says:—"There is another defect in the transit certificate system that requires remedying; goods are only allowed to be sent up country under transit certificate in the original bales and packages in which they are imported. This works great inconvenience. For instance, to import piece goods in separate pieces is impracticable, while to sell them in the interior in the original bales of 100 pieces at the small inland marts is very difficult; further, the bales are too bulky and heavy for handling and carriage by small boats or mule or man porters." Now this is distinctly contrary to the facts of the case. The Customs ruling on this matter is that to obtain an inland transit pass it is not necessary for the goods to be in their original packages. Care is taken, of course, to see that the goods were imported by foreign vessel, and provided proof can be produced of this one part of the shipment can be sold at the importing port and the balance sent under transit pass to anywhere in China. As we recollect, this question was raised some years ago at Amoy (Mr. GARDNER's old port) and settled as we have stated. There are enough evils to complain of in China without creating imaginary ones, and such a misstatement made to a body like the London Chamber of Commerce is calculated to do a good deal of harm. It is extraordinary that Mr. GARDNER should have made it. It is still more extraordinary that Mr. BYRON BRUNAN should not have contradicted it. Hundreds of bales of yarn and piece goods are repacked at Ichang and Wuchow, the one as re-exports to Chungking by "chartered junk," the other to go under transit pass to Yunnan by water carriage to Pooé and thence by mule or man porters to their destination.

Far greater than any restrictions of the kind which Mr. GARDNER supposes to exist is the evil produced by the taxation to which native produce is subjected. This he very properly states should occupy the attention of the British Government as well as the taxation on British goods. We go farther and say that it is even more important. The question of the undefined *tsoli* awaiting goods at their destination is undoubtedly an evil, but there is always an authority to which an appeal can be made, in the form of the British Consul; but with the native produce there is no such protection; the provincial officials have full scope there, and exercise it, with the result that the buying capacity of the Chinese is kept at its lowest ebb. Another point on which Mr. GARDNER does not appear to be well informed is the question of the opening of the inland waters, as he says:—"There is no doubt that now that the coast and inland ports of China are open to our shipping industries, a greater spurt will be given to our shipping industries, a greater spurt to them when cargo as well as passengers are allowed to be carried by our

steamers on the inland waters." We know of no mention in that concession which confines the trade to passengers only. We know of a restriction imposed by Sir ROBERT HART which nullifies the whole concession and renders it worthless, and we should strongly recommend our local Chamber of Commerce to join with the Shanghai Chamber and represent the true facts of the case to the London Chamber. That the last named Chamber is willing to do something is amply proved by their actions in the past, and the recent telegram in connection with Tariff revision shows that at least some members of it are willing to insist on a *quid pro quo* before making any concession to China.

Money is the root of all evil, says the old proverb. In this case it can be, and must be, made the root of all good. China's financial difficulties are the lever which the British Government must use—in conjunction with other nations if they are willing, without them if they are not—to lift the load of officialdom which bears upon and crushes the life out of one of the greatest markets for British goods in the world. Sir ROBERT HART has sown the good seed, and the sapling which is gradually lifting its head higher from the noxious soil in which it first took its roots must be carefully nurtured. It is not enough that it should be allowed to struggle against the rank weeds with which it is surrounded and have its growth stunted and retarded in consequence. The pruning hand of the gardener must be called in and the tares separated from the wheat. To drop the language of metaphor, a financial adviser, or, in view of international jealousy, an advisory board, must be formed, and paid out of the revenue of China. The whole of the taxation on water borne traffic, as a start, must be placed under the control of the Customs Administration. A Railway and Mining Board must be appointed to whom all regulations, or rather from whom all regulations, with regard to those two important things must come. Any attempts such as are now being made to organize provincial taxation farms in opposition to Imperial revenue collections must be put down with a stern hand and the originators of the movement severely dealt with. We have tinkered long enough. It is now time for our Government to be up and doing, and in a measure their hand must be forced by means of power which lies dormant in the people—the power of representation in parliament. It lies with the merchants of this port to take no small share in bringing that about. They are, many of them, connected with—and, in cases, branches of—powerful houses at home. These merchants must use their influence to have things put before the public at home in their true light. The absurdity and farce of such speeches as have just been made at Leeds by Lo FEN LO, the Chinese Ambassador to England, must be exposed in their true colours, the twaddle he talks of reporting to the Emperor of China, cementing the friendship between the two nations, etc., given at their true worth, and the true problem, namely, of European control, must be brought before the nation at large.

The opium question here is one on which, to make a stand. Nothing to facilitate the collection of revenue on this important article of import into China should be done by the Government of this colony until the Chinese have—not "given satisfactory assurances"—but *done* something to open the West and other rivers to trade and to establish one equal system of duties at the Kowloon and Lappa Stations as well as at Canton.

There are doubtless many of the residents here, and the great bulk of those at home, who think that because these stations are under one of the I.M. Commissioners no differential taxation takes place. We can assure our readers that they merely have to refer to the reports of those places to see how fallacious that idea is. The Hoppo under whose control these stations come issues what tariff he likes. The Commissioner merely sees that at those stations it is enforced on all alike. These stations should be thrown open to foreign vessels equally as they are to native vessels. The Treaty tariff should be in force there and transit passes granted for all foreign imports whether junk or steamer borne. If this were done we see no harm in duty receipts being sold in Queen's Road openly and the stigma which attaches to the present administration of doing it clandestinely would then be obviated. The thin end of the wedge was inserted when Sir ROBERT HART undertook the collection of duties at these stations. It remains for Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD and H.E. the Governor, working in conjunction, to drive it home.

LI HUNG-CHANG'S APPOINTMENT.

(Daily Press, 15th December)

The appointment of Li HUNG-CHANG to be "Grand Secretary and Commissioner of Investigation of Trade at the Treaty Ports" is an event of some importance commercially in China. The appointment is a new one and it may prove beneficial or otherwise to foreign trade. The duties of the new Secretary will no doubt mainly consist in seeing that the utmost possible revenue is gleaned from such trade, and we may be quite sure that no tenderness for foreigners will influence the old gentleman in his administration. His great object will be to endeavour to show that his appointment has proved beneficial to the Imperial revenue, and he will, we may be sure, see to it that his own purse is not neglected. Office with Li HUNG-CHANG and officials of his type is inseparably associated with commissions, otherwise squeezes, which no mandarin has ever succeeded more completely in bringing into his net. His late brother, LI HAN-CHANG, for some years Viceroy of the Two Kwang, where he was universally noted and known as "the bottomless purse" on account of the rapacity that distinguished him, was a pupil in the same school, but his methods were clumsy beside those of the new Grand Commercial Secretary. His Excellency Li HUNG-CHANG will not resort to petty squeezes, and he may during his new tenure of office subordinate his passion for gain to his love of power, which he will perhaps find a chance to regain if successful in promoting the interests of the Empress Dowager. Li is also sufficiently wide awake to know that any petty obstructions to foreign trade will only react on the revenue, and that the promotion of foreign trade means a substantial addition to the Customs exchequer. But whether the new Commercial Secretary has the interests of China's foreign trade genuinely at heart is matter for speculation. That he would like to see the revenues increase may be taken for granted, and that he is anxious that all the profits should be reaped by China he has in the past when Viceroy of Chihli given some significant proofs. It may be doubted, however, whether he fully appreciates all the benefits that China derives from her intercourse with foreign countries. One proof of this was the indifference with which he in common

with other high Chinese officials looked on at the utter decay and decline of the Chinese tea trade. It should have been apparent to him that the export of this great staple must fall to nothing if the causes which handicapped it in competition with the Indian leaf were allowed to continue. Had the necessary improvements in the culture of the plant and the process of firing been introduced and the burden of taxation been removed, China tea would still have held a place in the British markets. But no effort was made to arrest the destruction of this important trade. Nor has LI HUNG-CHANG ever shown any intelligent interest in the opium trade. He has looked on calmly while the production of the drug has been increased a hundredfold in the Chinese provinces and in Manchuria vast tracts of land, which had formerly been employed in grain cultivation, being given up to the production of the poppy—and the habit of opium smoking increased enormously by its ready accessibility and relative cheapness. The import of the Indian drug has meantime declined, and with it the revenue from the vice, for the home grown opium is much more lightly taxed. Had there been opposition to the import of opium on the ground that opium smoking was a wasteful and pernicious habit, there would have been some sense in such an attitude being taken up; but that has not been the policy of the Chinese Government or of LI HUNG-CHANG. They simply desired the right to increase the duty on the import. When that was conceded and the drug became more expensive they did not, as a really paternal Government would have done if honestly desirous to minimise the evils of the habit, seek to lessen the consumption by making it a luxury attainable only by the moneyed classes, but promptly allowed the law against its production in China to become a dead letter, until now, at the present moment, the quantity raised in the Empire is so great that if the import from India, Persia, and Turkey ceased tomorrow it would scarcely be missed except at the Treaty ports. In the matter of cheating and adulteration, too, which have had such injurious effects on China's exports—notably on the straw braid trade—the Government have always maintained a stolid apathy and want of interest quite inconceivable in any officials animated by patriotic motives. The aged but unrespected ex-Viceroy, who has had so large a share in moulding China's policy in the past, and contributed so considerably by his corrupt administration to bring her to the abyss of humiliation which followed on the war with Japan, is not likely, therefore, in our opinion, to inaugurate any surprising or beneficial development in Chinese commerce.

LAWLESSNESS IN KWANGTUNG.

(Daily Press, 13th December.)

The condition of lawlessness which has for so many months afflicted the delta of the West River still exists and shows little sign of improvement. Not only are the native craft pirated continually and whole villages and towns terrorised and blackmailed, but even steam-launches flying the British flag are boldly attacked and seized. Several of such seizures have been recorded during the past few months, and in some instances the temporary possession of the launches has been utilised by the pirates to pursue and capture trading junks. On the last occasion chronicled a gang of these daring miscreants seized the steam-launch *Lee Loi*, when near Kamchuk, and threw overboard two British watchmen who attempted resist-

ance. After the capture the launch was fortunately noticed by the officer in charge of the mandarin's boat off Chau Tau Shan, and suspecting that something was wrong he resolved on a closer inspection. The pirates growing uneasy under this observation jumped overboard and swam ashore. It was believed they had seized the *Lee Loi* with the intention of operating against some launches laden with arms which were expected up the river. A notorious robber chief named SAN PU is stated to have sent a letter to the manager at Canton of the China Merchants' S. N. Company demanding the sum of ten thousand dollars as the price of freedom from molestation of their steamers. He threatens, in case of refusal to comply with this demand, that he will plunder the steamers belonging to the Company. The manager very sensibly disdained to reply to this attempt at extortion, and sent the letter to the Nam-hoi Magistrate. Whether that official will trouble to take any steps to apprehend the blackmailer is doubtful; it is still more doubtful whether such efforts, if put forth, will prove effectual for the purpose. The pirates in Kwangtung and Kwangai display a boldness which nothing but a knowledge of their practical immunity from serious consequences could well confer. They really seem to have little to fear from the Government, and seem to snap their fingers at the officials. The truth is, probably, that they have friends and confederates in the yamens, who keep them well posted concerning any movements likely to be made in the way of punitive expeditions. Of the wrath of the villagers and others who have suffered at their hands they have more reason to be afraid. The villagers of Pakling, on the island of Chu Tau Shan, inflicted a sanguinary lesson on some pirates on the 7th instant which may, perhaps, prove a caution to these robbers that they are going too far and that the peaceable inhabitants of the country are not going to wait for the tardy justice of officialdom when they get a chance to capture any marauder. The execution of the four pirates caught by the Pakling people was carried out with a barbarity that sickens Europeans, but the provocation received had been considerable, and they were determined to make an example. It is to be hoped that when the new Viceroy arrives at Canton he may prove to have some fibre about him, and make himself a terror to evil-doers along these waterways. Unless some sternly repressive measures be taken ere long, the navigation of the West River and its affluents will become unsafe for any but large and strongly armed foreign steamers, and even on board these the most rigid precautions will need to be taken.

FRENCH DESIGNS ON HAINAN.

(Daily Press 14th December.)

The report of a mobilisation of the French forces in Tonkin with the object of making a descent upon the island of Hainan possesses at least an air of probability. The conduct of the Chinese in connection with the Kwangchauwan affair has been infamous, and it is certain that the French will make heavy demands for satisfaction. Before Marshal Su arrived from the north commissioned to arrange the delimitation of Kwangchauwan with the French it was trumpeted abroad that he had been instructed to resist, by force if necessary, any claims of the French that exceeded what the Chinese were disposed to concede. Whether this report was technically correct may be doubtful, but the currency it obtained indicated at least a feeling of hostility that boded ill for the

success of the negotiations. Marshal Su is personally a favourite with the French authorities, with whom he has worked amicably on the Tonkin frontier, and his appointment as the delimitation commissioner for Kwangchauwan might have been taken as indicative of a desire on the part of the Chinese to settle the matter in a friendly spirit, had it not been for the report above alluded to, which went the round of the Native papers and remained uncontradicted. But even assuming that Marshal Su individually represented peaceful intentions, he was not allowed a free hand, but had to consult the views of the Viceroy of Canton, whose duplicity in connection with the transfer of Hongkong's New Territory will not readily be forgotten, and who appears to have pursued the same dishonest and suicidal policy in the case of Kwangchauwan. Armed attacks have been made on the French forces, French officers have been brutally murdered and mutilated, and the French Government have thus been supplied with good ground for preferring a heavy claim for satisfaction. Possibly that claim may take the form of a demand for the cession of Hainan. The expediency of annexing that island has often been discussed by French publicists, and no doubt the Colonial Expansionists will do their best to take advantage of the present occasion. But the question arises, what will other Powers have to say to such annexation? The colonial policy of France has hitherto been entirely selfish, its main characteristic being a desire to exclude all other nationalities from the enjoyment of any commercial opportunities in French territory. Many Frenchmen disapprove of that policy and advocate the principle of equal commercial privileges for all which has been consistently followed, and with conspicuous success, by Great Britain and which is being imitated by the Germans at Kiaochau and by the Russians at Talienwan. M. DELOASSE, the French Foreign Minister, the other day proclaimed the adhesion of France herself to the principle of the open door, and if there be any truth in the report that France has designs upon Hainan she will have an opportunity of putting her new found faith into practice. Indeed, she will find it necessary to do so, for other Powers, while they might not oppose the annexation itself, will ask for guarantees that there shall be no restriction of existing trading rights and opportunities. If France really believes in the open door on its own merits she might at once put her faith into practice by abolishing the differential tariff now in force in Tonkin and Cochin-China.

IMPROVED SANITATION AND DIMINUTION OF THE DEATH RATE.

(Daily Press, 12th December.)

The average death rate of the colony of Hongkong during the ten years 1879-88 was 29.84 per thousand. In 1889 the Tytam water supply became available, and for the ten years 1889-98 the average death rate has been 23.23 per thousand. This shows a saving of six per thousand, which, on a population of 250,000, represents fifteen hundred lives saved annually. In this great saving of life the first place must be given to the improved water supply, but improved methods of drainage and the stricter enforcement of cleanliness in dwellings have also no doubt materially contributed to the fortunate result. The plague, which made its first recognised appearance in the colony in 1894, may almost be counted a blessing in disguise, since it has led to an energetic campaign against

filth in all its forms, so that a death rate showing a still further diminution may be expected as soon as plague ceases to visit us. Even with the repeated plague epidemics of the past five years the average death rate per thousand for that period is only 0.86 above that of the previous five years. The results so far achieved ought to encourage the colony to proceed with the good work of sanitation and to spare no expense within its means to render the colony thoroughly healthy. The saving of fifteen hundred lives a year is no mean achievement, though the means by which it is accomplished are not such as appeal to the imagination and consequently bring little praise to those chiefly responsible. As *RUSKIN* remarks, "Let a child fall into the river before the roughest man's eyes; he will usually do what he can to get it out, even at some risk to himself; and all the town will triumph in the saving of one little life. Let the man be shown that hundreds of children are dying of fever from want of some sanitary measure which it will cost him trouble to urge, and he will make no effort; and probably all the town would resist him if he did." The sanitarian, indeed, often encounters not only resistance but inveterate hatred and personal abuse, instances of which have not been wanting in our local history.

It does not appear from the *Government Gazette* what considerations have dictated the publication in the last issue of the death rates for the past twenty years, but, whether by design or mere coincidence, the figures have made their appearance very opportunely on the eve of an election of two members of the Sanitary Board by the rate-payers. They show in a striking way what can be accomplished by sanitation and ought to influence the electors to return men pledged to support and not to obstruct sanitary progress. That the Government makes mistakes, that the Sanitary Board makes mistakes, we all know, and no doubt they will go on making mistakes to the end of the chapter, but the qualification that should be sought in a candidate for the Sanitary Board is not the mere ability to cavil at other people's mistakes, but the ability and the willingness to actively help forward the work of sanitation. We want level headed men of affairs who can not only see the goal to be aimed at, but also the practical means of attaining it. Several gentlemen have been mentioned in connection with the election that takes place next week, but so far none of them have openly proclaimed themselves candidates or made any public declaration of their policy. It is a defect in the procedure that the election should have to take place immediately after the nomination. It would be better if the nomination were made some time before the election and the names of the nominees published in the *Government Gazette*, so that the electors might have time to consider the merits of the respective candidates.

The Pahang correspondent of the *Straits Times* writes:—Mr. W. Kerfoot Hughes of Hongkong, one of the Directors of the Punjani Company, has paid Ulu Pahang a visit, and has since returned to Singapore on his way back. Mr. Hughes went into matters at Punjani, and it is an open secret he is not exactly pleased with affairs as he found them. While here, Mr. Hughes was on the look-out for likely mining land, and has found it on the watershed of the Tabor River, a stream which rises north of Paub and flows into the Semantan about three miles above a place called Tanjong Aur. He has since applied for special prospecting rights over the river in question, with the right to ultimately select an area of 250 acres for permanent mining.

PROPOSED FORMATION OF A SANITARY TRUST.

(Daily Press, 9th December.)

As to the necessity of sanitary improvements in Hongkong all parties are agreed. Whether the formation of a Trust would be the best way of determining the form those improvements should take and of providing the means for effecting them is quite a different question. A resolution to that effect was passed at the last meeting of the Sanitary Board, on the motion of the Hon. F. H. MAY, seconded by Mr. E. OSBORNE, but neither the proposer nor seconder were convincing in their arguments in support of the proposed Trust. The best means of effecting the sanitary improvements required would be the formation of a Municipal Council with full control of municipal funds and power to raise money by loan for municipal purposes, and the strongest argument in favour of Mr. MAY's proposed Trust is that it might possibly prove a stepping stone to a Municipal Council. But the existing Sanitary Board would itself form a very good nucleus of a Municipal Council, or, if the Government maintains its hostile attitude to the granting of full municipal privileges, the Board might at least be granted full control over sanitary expenditure and have a certain proportion of the revenue allocated to it to meet such expenditure. Mr. MAY in proposing his resolution said the subject was a most difficult one and the resolution simply aimed at obtaining consideration from men who have knowledge of sanitary matters and large business capacity to see if some feasible scheme could not be laid before the Government. "Hongkong," he said, "is in its infancy; it has a very large future before it, and it behoves us men of the present day to do all we possibly can to make this port a healthy one; otherwise its development cannot be so large nor its future so brilliant as it ought to be." In that the whole community will agree with Mr. MAY and we congratulate him on his suggestion that the co-operation of the public through duly accredited representatives should be invited in the carrying out of the work, though we think the particular form of representative body he suggests may not be the best that could be devised for the purpose. The opposition of the Colonial Secretary has, however, to be counted with in any project of public reform in Hongkong involving anything in the nature of popular representation. Being in closer communication than anyone else with the Governor Mr. STEWART LOCKHART may be able to influence Sir HENRY BLAKE's mind in the same direction as he did Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON.

THE SANITARY BOARD AS RAT- CATCHERS.

(Daily Press, 9th December.)

We have not much faith in the Sanitary Board as rat-catchers. The theory that plague is chiefly or largely propagated by rats, and that the destruction of these vermin would remove or diminish the risk of the disease appearing in epidemic form, is supported by competent authorities, and if it were possible to exterminate the rats it would be worth while going to very considerable expenditure to accomplish that object. Trapping, however, will fail to produce any appreciable effect upon the numbers of the rat population. Two characteristics of the rat are its cunning, which renders it difficult to trap, and its fecundity, which soon makes good any

diminution in its numbers resulting from special causes. Vast numbers of rats must have been carried off by the successive epidemics of plague—far more than are at all likely to be caught in traps—yet to all appearance they swarm as freely in the colony to-day as they did before the disease made its first appearance. The most that can be said in favour of trapping is, as Dr. CLARK put it, that it will do no harm to set a few rat-traps. If any serious impression is to be made on the rat population it will have to be by introducing some natural enemy. A suggestion made in a local paragraph a short time ago that the rat population might be kept in check by encouraging an increase of the cat population was received with some ridicule, but it would at least yield better results than the adoption of the Sanitary Board's suggestion.

GENERAL GATACRE'S REVERSE.

(Daily Press, 13th December.)

The news of the disaster sustained by General GATACRE's column is disconcerting, not only on account of the loss of six hundred men, serious as that loss is, but on account of the explanation put forward, which indicates an ignorance of the country that may lead to many similar disasters if it be allowed to remain uncorrected. The Ladysmith disaster was bad enough, but that was accounted for by a tactical error, and even the best General may err at times. The Stormberg affair, however, seems to have been the result of ignorance pure and simple, and, although further details may put a different complexion on the matter, the ignorance seems to have been quite inexcusable. When the Germans invaded France one of the elements which contributed largely to their success was the fact that they knew the topography of the country a great deal better than the defenders. The Boers appear to have a similar advantage over the British in their invasion of Cape Colony. General GATACRE, operating in a British Colony, every mile of which ought to be familiar to the responsible military and civil officials, is dependent upon treacherous or incompetent guides and is led into a trap set for him by the Boer invading force. It is to be hoped the other columns have not been left so destitute of information concerning the country as General GATACRE's seems to have been. The heroism displayed in the defence of Ladysmith, Kimberley, and Mafeking evokes enthusiastic admiration, but heroism alone will not suffice to carry the campaign to a successful conclusion. We were told at the beginning that in this campaign there were to be no military mistakes, but so far that promise has not been fulfilled. General BULLER, however, is believed to know his ground and to have a correct appreciation of the conditions of Boer warfare; it will be a relief when justification for that belief is forthcoming in the news of some signal success for the British arms.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* says:—We regret to announce the untimely and shocking death of Mr. F. F. W. Richmond, who until quite recently occupied the position of bandmaster to the Tientsin Public Band. It appears that on the 19th inst., Richmond and a friend were in Ryan's Hotel, Chemulpo, where an altercation arose between Richmond and a person supposed to be a passenger on board the *S. S. Songari*. Richmond left the hotel about 6.30 p.m., and was found at 7 o'clock in an alleyway quite dead, with several wounds on the head and neck, supposed to be inflicted by a dagger. An investigation has been opened at H.B.M.'s Consulate, but at the time of our correspondent's writing it was not concluded. The murdered man was buried on the 22nd Nov.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

On Thursday afternoon a meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber at the Government Offices, there being present:—

His EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR (Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G.).

His EXCELLENCY Major-General GASCIGNE C.M.G. (Commanding the Troops).

Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. H. E. POLLOCK (Acting Attorney-General).

Hon. R. MURRAY RUMSEY (Harbour Master).

Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Captain Superintendent of Police).

Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. C. P. CHATRE, C.M.G.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

Hon. E. R. BELLIOS, C.M.G.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Mr. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Councils).

THE VOLUNTEERS AND THE OCCUPATION OF THE NEW TERRITORY.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I have the honour to lay on the table despatches with reference to the service rendered by the Hongkong Volunteers in the occupation of the New Territory. With reference to the correspondence between the Secretary of State for War and the Secretary of State for the Colonies, a letter has been received from the General Officer Commanding enclosing a despatch from the Secretary for War. It is being printed and will be laid on the table in due course.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table Financial Minute No. 27 and moved that it be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded and the motion was carried.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table report of the Finance Committee (No. 11) and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded and the motion was carried.

QUESTIONS.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Pursuant to notice I beg to ask the question which is No. 3 on the agenda.

The question was as follows:—

"With reference Government Notifications Nos. 653 and 654 of 25th instant, will the Honourable the Colonial Secretary inform the Council whether the Sanitary Board in future is to be constituted in accordance with the Public Health Ordinance No. 24 of 1887, sections 4 and 5, and if the nominated members are as formerly to be unofficial members of the civil community?"

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—In reply to the honourable member I beg to answer as follows:—The Sanitary Board will be constituted under the provisions of Ordinances 24 of 1887 and 9 of 1895. The Governor has nominated, in addition to Mr. Osborne, Major Brown, R.A.M.C., Messrs. Fung Wa Chuen, Chan A Fook, and the Medical Officer of Health.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Your Excellency having given me permission, I beg to put another question, viz.:—"With reference to the leading article in the *Hongkong Telegraph* of 11th inst., will the Hon. the Colonial Secretary inform the Council whether the Government have granted any exclusive privilege or monopoly for the dredging for and the collection of shells, used in the manufacture of lime, in the waters of the New Territory leased by the Convention of last year; if so, why were public tenders not invited; under what authority or power has the monopoly been conceded, to whom, and for what consideration?" Another question is:—"Will the Hon. the Colonial Secretary inform the Council whether any agreement or arrangement has been entered into between the Postmaster-General in London and the Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes concerning the proposed change in the day of departure from this homewards of the Company's fortnightly mail steamers, and if so, what are the terms?"

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—In reply to the first question I have the honour to reply:—

(1) No such exclusive privilege or monopoly as is referred to in the question of the Honourable Member has been granted. (2) A Crown Rent has been fixed for a limited extent of Crown land surrounding Ping Chau off the East coast of Lantau used by the manufacturers of lime on Ping Chau, and leases for short terms granted to them at Crown Rents amounting to \$1,300 per annum, under the general instructions of the Secretary of State. The reply to the second question is:—The Government has no knowledge of any such agreement or arrangement.

FIRST READINGS.

The following Bills were read a first time:—
A Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Companies Ordinance, 1877.

A Bill entitled an Ordinance to provide for the summoning of Chinese before the Registrar-General.

THE DANGEROUS GOODS ORDINANCE.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL was about to propose the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Dangerous Goods Ordinance, 1873, when

The COLONIAL SECRETARY said—Before we proceed any further with this matter, I should like to draw the attention of the Council to the fact that a letter has been received from the Chamber of Commerce on behalf of people in this colony requesting that this Bill be not proceeded with pending consideration of one clause to which special attention has been called. I think, therefore, that instead of proceeding with the second reading of the Bill to-day, it will be better to postpone it until the point to which the attention of the Government has been called has received further consideration.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL said he would agree to this.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I beg to move as an amendment that the Bill in question be referred to the Law Committee for further consideration and report. A number of amendments and suggestions have reached me a few minutes before coming into the Council, and I think the time of the Council would be saved and business would be facilitated if the matter was referred to the Standing Law Committee.

The Hon. Dr. HO KAI—I beg to second that amendment. This is a most important measure, and I think it would be well to defer it for further consideration.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I am prepared to accept the amendment of the honourable member.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—It is very important that this Bill should be passed as soon as possible. I quite agree that this is an important Bill and that it is desirable that it should be considered by the Standing Law Committee, but it is very important indeed that the Standing Law Committee should meet and consider it at once and let us have their report as soon as possible—if possible before the next Council meeting.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I will have the amendments suggested sent to the Law Committee without delay.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—The only question is the absence of Mr. Keswick, who is a member of the Law Committee.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—When does he come back?

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I understand next week.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Is it necessary to wait for Mr. Keswick? He is not a legal man at all.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—The Bill would have to be read through in committee of Council unless all the members of the Standing Law Committee were present. However, it is only a very short Bill, and it does not make much difference.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—I do not think it very much matters. I think it is better the lawyers should get at this and consider it at once instead of waiting for Mr. Keswick.

The Bill was accordingly referred to the Standing Law Committee.

THE NEW TERRITORIES LAND COURT ORDINANCE.

The New Territories Land Court Ordinance, 1899, passed through the committee stage.

MERCHANT SHIPPING ORDINANCE.

The next item in the orders of the day was:—
Third reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to consolidate and amend the laws relating to Merchant Shipping, the duties of the Harbour Master, the control and management of the waters of the colony, and the regulation of vessels navigating the same.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—As honourable members will see, I propose to move that this Bill be recommitted for the purpose of making certain further amendments. There has been circulated to honourable members a list of those amendments which I propose to make, but in addition there are two small amendments which I propose to make upon the recommitment of the Bill. The points dealt with are important, and it is desirable we should get the Bill in the best possible shape. I move that the Bill be recommitted.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was carried.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council then adjourned until Thursday of next week.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately after the Council, the Colonial Secretary presiding.

The CHAIRMAN—There is only one minute to bring before the committee, and in that minute "The Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of one thousand and two hundred dollars in aid of the vote Incidental Expenses, Sanitary Department." In connection with that vote the Secretary of the Sanitary Board reports that this vote, which is for \$3,400, had a large call upon it in the early part of the year on account of the outbreak of rinderpest, \$663 being so expended. There has also been an unusually heavy bill for repairs to dust carts, viz., \$730, and a further sum of \$250 will be required for carts now being repaired.

The vote was agreed to and the committee adjourned.

SUPREME COURT.

11th December.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

SUIT BY A BARMAID.

Rosa Ah Sue, formerly barmaid at the Stag Hotel, sought to recover from the proprietor, Chow Chee Kwai, \$270 damages for wrongful dismissal and for breach of agreement made on July 1st, 1899, whereby defendant agreed to employ plaintiff as barmaid for a term of 10 calendar months, at the monthly wage of \$45.

Mr. Mounsey appeared for plaintiff and Mr. Hursthouse for defendant.

The case had been adjourned from the 7th inst. for a settlement.

At the previous hearing Mr. Arthur, Justices' Clerk at the Magistracy, gave evidence, having been subpoenaed on behalf of defendant. He produced the record of licensing, and said there was an application from the Stag Hotel for the renewal of a license, but on Nov. 15th the application was refused. There was no personal objection to the applicant. He produced a letter dated Nov. 16th which he had received from Messrs. Deacon and Hastings on behalf of defendant stating that the barmaids had been got rid of. On Nov. 28th a fresh application was made and was granted.

Since the adjournment \$157.50 has been paid into court and Mr. Hursthouse submitted that under the circumstances this was reasonable compensation.

His Lordship, however, considered that plaintiff was entitled to the full amount and gave judgment accordingly with costs.

A similar claim against defendant by Ruby Dwyer was similarly dealt with.

Chow Chee Kwai sued Ruby Dwyer and Rosa Ah Sue for \$56.50, for the return of certain articles of furniture or the value.

This case was not contested, judgment being agreed to.

12th December.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR W. MEIGH GOODMAN
(ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE).HO FUNG HANG V. CHAN KIT SAN
AND ANOTHER.

In this case the Hon. H. E. Pollock (instructed by Mr. Bowley), appeared for plaintiff and Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. C. Ewins), for defendant. This was a trial of an issue as to the Statute of Limitations.

Mr. Francis said that the parties in the case were Ho Fung Hang, who was suing as administrator of the estate and effects of Ho I Shek deceased, and Chan Kit San and Sz Kuk Sam. The petition—and for the purpose of the argument it was assumed that all the facts stated in the petition were correct—in the first paragraph said plaintiff was a gentleman formerly residing at 55, Lower Lascar Row, Victoria, but now residing at 87, Wellington Street, Victoria, and was suing as the administrator of the estate and effects of Ho I Shek deceased. Paragraph 2 said defendants resided in Victoria and were partners in the Yan Wo and the Yi Li opium firms, which carried on business at 2, Cleverly Street, Victoria, and at Macao. Ho I Shek died intestate on or about the 19th day of June, 1880, at Tung Kun, in the empire of China. Paragraph 4 said no administration of the estate was taken out until November, 1886, when probate of an alleged will was granted to Ho Chik Fuk (by the name of Ho Chick Fan), the person named as executor in such alleged will, but Ho Chik Fuk did not intermeddle in any way with the hereinafter mentioned shares of Ho I Shek in the Yan Wo and Yi Li firms. Paragraph 5 said that on or about the 17th November, 1896, this alleged will was declared null and void on the ground that it was a forgery, and probate was thereupon revoked, and on June 21st, 1897, letters of administration of the estate and effects of deceased were granted to plaintiff in the present suit. Paragraph 6 said Ho I Shek, who was one of the promoters of the Yan Wo and Yi Li firms was at the date of his death entitled as a partner to two shares in the Yan Wo firm and one share in the Yi Li firm, and upon the death of Ho I Shek these shares remained in the said two firms and "the surviving partners in the said firms carried on and have continued to carry on up to the present day the businesses of the said two firms with the capital and assets of such firms without any final settlement of accounts being come to between the said firms or either of them and the estate of the said Ho I Shek deceased." Paragraph 7 said plaintiff had, as administrator, recently applied to defendants for accounts showing the amounts payable to the estate of Ho I Shek in respect of the latter's shares in the said firms, but defendants had wrongfully refused to render any accounts in respect thereof. Mr. Francis, continuing, submitted that on the face of the petition there was no allegation that defendants were among the surviving partners at the time of Ho I Shek's death, and he submitted that unless it was distinctly alleged and proved and admitted that they were among the surviving partners no legal liability attached to them whatever. He submitted that when in 1886 probate was granted to Ho Chik Fuk the latter was in a position to give a perfectly legal, valid receipt for any accounts which might have been paid in respect of the estate of the deceased. With respect of the letters of administration granted in June, 1897, his contention was that the claim was not merely barred because of the existence of the previous probate, but that it was barred even although no previous letters of administration had been taken out, inasmuch as the death of Ho I Shek dissolved the partnership, whether the present defendants were partners or not. Supposing there was a debt due to Ho I Shek, the moment his death occurred the Statute of Limitations commenced to run as against that debt.

Mr. Pollock submitted that the circumstances under which this claim arose were of a special character, and that it was important that his Lordship should bear in mind the peculiar circumstances of the case as set out in the petition. His Lordship would see that although Ho I

Shek died in June, 1880, there was no administration of his estate and effects taken up until November, 1886, and that that administration was under a forged will, a will which was subsequently set aside as a forgery in November, 1896, and letters of administration were not granted to the present plaintiff until June, 1897. He would submit, therefore, that there was no really valid administration of the estate of the deceased until June, 1897. As to the point raised by Mr. Francis, that defendants were not partners in the Yan Wan and Yi Li firms at the time of Ho I Shek's death, he contended that they must be considered as surviving or as continuing partners in the firm.

His Lordship said he would reserve judgment, as the question was a delicate one.

14th December

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE).

LAM CHAK U V. CHUI WAH AND ANOTHER.

In this case plaintiff, Lam Chak U, was described in the petition as a gentleman residing on the second floor at 36 Hollywood Road, defendants being Chui Wah and Shi Ping Kwang. The first defendant is described as a rent collector residing at 54, Stanton Street, and the second as clerk and interpreter to Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, solicitors. The claim was for damages—\$300—for improper distraint.

Mr. Reece appeared for plaintiff and Mr. Slade (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) for defendants.

Mr. Reece, having read the petition and answer, said the main issue was whether or not plaintiff was a tenant at \$20 a month or \$80 a month.

Mr. Slade—That is really the sole question.

Mr. Reece, continuing, said defendants alleged that plaintiff was their tenant at \$30 per Chinese month and he became their tenant on the 22nd day of the third moon. He denied that plaintiff became their tenant on that date, and for this reason: That might be the date of the assignment of the premises from Sun Kee to defendants, but plaintiff paid rent to Sun Kee, his former landlord, up to the 17th day of the fifth moon and got a receipt for that rent. Defendants said they served on the 17th day of the fourth moon a month's notice to increase the rent. If the premises were sold to defendants, as they probably were they would be sold subject to existing tenancies. There was a tenancy subsisting on that date—a monthly tenancy from the 18th day of one Chinese month to the 17th day of the next Chinese month—at \$20 for each of the two floors plaintiff then occupied, and one of the terms of the tenancy was that one month's notice should be given. What he submitted was this the rent could not be validly raised unless the subsisting tenancy was determined. The proper way to raise rent was to give unconditional notice to quit, followed by an intimation that if the tenant chose to stop on at an increased rent he could do so. This notice was not a notice to quit at all. The notice was bad, he submitted, for three reasons. First of all it was not given by the proper persons, Sun Kee being the landlord on the date of the notice; secondly that it was not given at the proper time, because his evidence was that it was served not on the 17th day but on the 23rd day of the fourth moon, which was not a month's notice; and thirdly it was bad in form—it was not a notice to quit at all but only a notice to raise the rent—and was absolutely invalid and useless.

His Lordship—If your contention is right 90 per cent. of the notices are bad.

Mr. Reece observed that that might be, and added that if plaintiff was tenant at \$20 a month there had been an illegal distraint, because the full amount had been tendered.

Mr. Slade—That is so.

Mr. Reece, continuing, said if the distraint was improper and excessive plaintiff was entitled to excessive damages, and he claimed \$300.

The evidence for plaintiff having been given His Lordship informed Mr. Slade that he need not address the court, but suggested that certain witnesses should be called. The case for the defence was that plaintiff, in consideration

of his being allowed to give up one of the two floors which he rented at 76, Hollywood Road, agreed to pay an increased rent for the other.

His Lordship held that the story of defendants was the true one, and gave judgment for defendants with costs.

THE FATE OF THE "HUPEH"

ARRIVAL OF THE SAVED IN
HONGKONG.A TERRIBLE EXPERIENCE—
DEVOURED BY SHARKS.KINDLY TREATED BY FILIPINO
ISLANDERS.

9th December.

In our Wednesday's issue we announced that the previous afternoon Messrs. Butterfield and Swire had received a telegram from Manila to the effect that the *Hupei* was lost together with 46 Chinese, but that all the Europeans aboard were saved and were coming to Hongkong in the *Yuensang*. The *Hupei* left Passarouan, Java, on the 6th November, and should have reached Hongkong on the 15th November. She was thus 19 days overdue before any tidings were received concerning her, and consequently the gravest fears were entertained as to her safety. Yesterday the *Yuensang* arrived in the harbour with those who had been saved. These were 15 in number and consisted of eight Europeans and seven Chinese. The Europeans were Captain Pennefather, three officers, three engineers, and Mr. Reveill, agent for the Columbia Cycles, who was the only passenger. The Chinese saved were the boatswain, three Chinese quarter-masters, the lamp trimmer, and two sailors. The Europeans saved in addition to the Captain and Mr. Reveille were Chief Officer W. Hunter, Second Officer J. Jackson, Third Officer A. Durant, Chief Engineer S. Farrell, Second Engineer W. Pugh, and Third Engineer A. Blake.

When the *Hupei* left Passarouan on the 6th November she had on board a crew of 60 and one passenger and carried as cargo 4,000 tons of sugar. On the 14th the Island of Caba was passed. All had gone on well up to then, but on the 15th—that was Thursday—a severe gale came on from the north with a heavy sea, and at two o'clock on the Friday morning the vessel began to list to port, and things began to look so serious that Captain Pennefather at eight o'clock in the morning ordered her head to be turned towards Manila. Though the vessel was almost straight at half-past five in the morning she was 27 degrees to starboard by half-past six. The list kept becoming greater and greater, and with a view to improving matters Captain Pennefather ordered some of the cargo to be thrown overboard.

The list, however, continued to increase and by Saturday, the 18th November, the vessel was 60 degrees to starboard, and the crew began to talk of leaving the ship. All the boats had gone, with the exception of one on the port side which could not be got at, so eight rafts were prepared and all got aboard except the Captain and the passenger. The Captain announced that he purposed sticking by the ship, and endeavoured to dissuade the crew from going on to the rafts, saying that they would be safer in the ship. They, however, said they did not believe in dying like rats in a hole and intended to make a fight for it. With that they pushed off and were lost sight of before dark.

The following day—Sunday—two of the rafts returned to the ship. The first to arrive was the one in charge of the Chinese boatswain. It reached the *Hupei* at about nine o'clock in the morning, coming from leeward. The boatswain reported that they had been sorely beset by sharks, the water literally swarming with them, and that during the night a raft which they were towing had gone under, and that the eight men on it were devoured by these monsters of the deep. At about four o'clock in the afternoon the raft with the officers and engineers came alongside from windward. They also said they had been much troubled by the sharks, which had actually leaped out of the water and taken bits of biscuits which were on the raft. Under these circumstances they deemed it more prudent to endea-

your to find their way back to the ship, which they did. By this time provisions had got very scarce on the *Hupei*, and consequently everybody had to be put on short commons.

Captain Pennefather saw that his only chance of safety lay in getting hold of the remaining boat, and with considerable difficulty he managed to do this on Monday morning, the 20th November, and the 15 men who remained got into her. The *Hupei* was then about 114° 10' degrees north and 118° 13' degrees east, and was about 100 miles from the Island of Cabra. The boat was pushed off from the ship, which went down soon afterwards, the boat standing by to see the last of her.

Those in the boat then made sail and on Wednesday morning, Nov. 22nd, were fortunate enough to reach the Island of Lubang, one of the Philippines, landing at a village called Look. Here they were received most kindly by the inhabitants, who gave up their houses for them, brought them the best of their food, and presented them with 300 of the only 700 cigars which the Island possessed. The head man also found them a schooner to take them to Manila, himself guaranteeing its return. On reaching Manila they found the *Yuensang* in port and at once took passage aboard for Hongkong. The Lubang Islanders deserve to be rewarded for the humanity displayed by them.

We may add that the *Hupei* is sister ship to the *Shantung*, which had only escaped coming to grief a short time ago. It will be remembered that the *Hupei* rendered valuable assistance on that occasion.

Since the above was written we learn that the trouble started through the vessel springing a leak. The consequence was that the water got into the sugar and the listing of the vessel was the result. It was about 11 o'clock in the morning when the rafts left the ship, one containing the officers and engineers getting away first and seven others with the Chinese aboard following. At about 11 o'clock at night the Europeans' raft capsized. Only two of those on board could swim and it was with the greatest difficulty that all were saved. Of course what provisions were on the raft were lost and were devoured by the sharks, one of which came sailing by just as the last man had been got out of the water. On the following morning the ship was sighted, and, as stated above, the raft returned and all got on board the vessel again.

DEPARTURE OF PRINCE HENRY OF PRUSSIA.

On Sunday H.R.H. Prince Henry of Prussia left Hongkong in the *Deutschland* for Bangkok, for the purpose of paying his long deferred visit to the King of Siam. The *Gefion* also left for the same port. His Royal Highness will continue his homeward journey from Singapore in the German mail steamer.

THE KWANGCHAUWAN AFFAIR.

DELIMITATION CONCLUDED.

The French cruiser *Descartes* arrived here on Tuesday morning from Kwangchauwan, having left that place on the 11th inst.

The delimitation of the disputed boundary has been at last settled, and Commissioner Su left Kwangchauwan on Sunday last for Shanghai and Peking. Before doing so he handed over the bodies of Ensigns Koun and Gourlaouen, of the *Descartes*, who had been set upon and murdered by Chinese. In the reprisals which ensued the Chinese lost altogether about 300 men, and there is no doubt that this, the firm attitude, and the threats of the French, were the means of bringing the matter to a speedy conclusion.

The question as to responsibility for the murder of the two officers and the armed attacks on French soldiers will be dealt with at Peking, no doubt in the shape of a just demand by the French Government for heavy compensation.

We translate the following from the *Courrier d'Haiphong* of the 2nd December:—

The troops sent from Tonkin to Kwangchauwan arrived at Fort Bayard on the afternoon of the 22nd November. They disembarked shortly after their arrival and were sent to the village of Coilwang, a few kilometres north-east

of Fort Bayard. As our soldiers arrived at this village a detachment consisting of several companies was returning from a reconnoissance.

In the course of this reconnoissance our brave marines had had two engagements with the Chinese. In the first some fifty Chinese were killed and wounded. In the second encounter, which was much more serious, six companies of Chinese regulars were repulsed at the point of the bayonet. In this admirable charge, in which the old French dash was once more exhibited, eight hundred Chinese were left on the ground. The number of the wounded is unknown, but it must have been considerable.

Since then, notwithstanding the rumours to contrary, there has been no further engagement. The lesson inflicted on the Chinese on the 22nd November seems to have borne fruit.

It has since been possible to proceed with the delimitation of the frontier at certain points and the coolies come in to Hoiteou to offer their services for engagement.

Let us hope that this state of affairs will continue. Should it prove otherwise we have only one thing to do, namely, on the first offensive movement of the Chinese, to bombard Canton.

SERIOUS FIRE IN JERVOIS STREET

\$26,000 DAMAGES.

At about half-past six on Wednesday morning a fire broke out on the ground floor of No. 76 Jervois Street, which, together with the first floor, is occupied as a piece goods shop by the Wa Hing Firm. The second floor is used for the same purpose and is rented by Yeung Lok. On alarm being given the Fire Brigade, under the command of Captain Superintendent May, appeared on the scene without loss of time. They succeeded in preventing the fire from spreading to the adjoining buildings, but No. 76 was completely gutted. The damage on the ground and first floors is estimated at \$23,000, which is covered by insurance in the Nolan Insurance Company. The damage on the second floor is estimated at \$3,000, which is also covered by insurance (Tung On Insurance Company).

ADVENTURES OF A HONGKONG LAUNCH.

"BORROWED" BY PIRATES.

14th December.

The launch *Fei On*, which is owned by a Chinese firm in Hongkong, is supposed to have been stolen by pirates. She was chartered by some people who said that they purposed using her for running passengers between Hongkong and the Island of Lantau. The extraordinary feature about the incident is that though the charterers were utter strangers to the owners the latter did not take the trouble to make any enquiries respecting them or see that some security was deposited.

The *Fei On* left Hongkong at about four o'clock on Monday afternoon. She dropped a passenger at Tung Cheung (Lantau Island) and was supposed to go on from there to Tei O. On walking over to Tei O the next day, however, the passenger happened to remark that he had been brought over by the *Fei On*, which had then proceeded to Tei O, and he was surprised to learn that nothing had been seen of her. The owners were communicated with and a search was instituted, but up to yesterday the launch had not been found.

It is believed that the charterers were pirates and that the launch has been stolen by them.

15th December.

The Hongkong launch *Fei On*, which was reported as having been stolen by pirates, turned up at Tei O, Lantau Island, on Wednesday and its temporary disappearance is now explained.

When the launch left Hongkong at four o'clock on Monday afternoon there were quite a number of passengers on board. At Tung Cheung (Lantau Island) three passengers were dropped, and the launch then turned its head to Tei O, for which place there were several passengers. Soon after leaving Tung Cheung, however, four of the passengers took out revolvers and pointing them at the crew compelled them to go below, also forcing about ten passengers into the forepart of the vessel. At

the same time a boat containing about 12 men came out from Lantau and got aboard the launch, these men being evidently in league with the other ruffians.

The engine room staff were set to work, but the coxswain was sent below, the pirates doing the steering. At about ten o'clock at night the pirates hailed a boat, and soon afterwards a noise was heard as though goods were being transferred from another boat to the launch. Then all was quiet until about three o'clock on Tuesday morning, when it was evident that the launch was alongside another launch or boat, and again goods were transferred to her. Towards day-break two smaller craft were held up. The launch continued her voyage, dodging about until night, when she headed for the land. Ultimately several boats came alongside her and the goods which had been taken on board her were transferred to the boats. Then all was quiet, and as the launch did not move the crew ventured to go on deck, when they found the launch anchored near the Booca Tigris Forts and the pirates gone. Accordingly the anchor was heaved, steam was got up, and the launch was taken on to Tei O.

SUMMARY VENGEANCE WREAKED ON WEST RIVER PIRATES.

A rather sanguinary tragedy is reported on the West River, in which the biter was bit, and summary vengeance was executed on the pirates. The river steamer *Wuchow*, which had left Kongmoon on Thursday, the 7th instant, about 6.45 a.m., was steaming placidly along when, on approaching Chu Shan Island, Captain Thomas heard some firing in front, and at first thought it was some crackers being exploded, but he could not understand why they should be fired at that unusual hour. Suddenly, however, he saw some shots strike the water about forty yards ahead of the steamer. There was a thin haze hanging over the river at the time and he could not see clearly what was going on on the banks, but he summoned the officers and others and got their arms ready, thinking there was a piratical attack impending. This idea was, however, soon dispelled by noticing that though the steamer continued her course the shots never came nearer. Presently the haze cleared and Capt. Thomas saw that the banks of the river were lined on either side by excited crowds, who were firing at a long low boat which was being rowed by four men, who were dodging the bullets and endeavouring to propel the boat by working the oars above their heads. It then dawned upon his mind that these were pirates whom the villagers were attempting to capture. As the *Wuchow* was lying about a mile further up off Chu Tau Shan, Capt. Thomas gave orders to cast loose the lighter, and he then steamed off to the *Wuchow* and informed the Commander of what was going on. Unfortunately the fires had been drawn (for the first time for a week) from the steam pinnace, but orders were given to get up steam as soon as possible, and meantime the *Wuchow* took the pinnace in tow and returned with her to the scene, and then taking the lighter in tow again resumed her voyage. Capt. Thomas learned, on his return, that the villagers had captured the pirate boat, which had been caught red handed in an act of piracy, and they had executed most summary justice on its crew. The four men were hacked almost to pieces. One man's face had been cloven from his head by an axe, and the sight was most sickening. Savage as the retribution was, it may however have some salutary effect in checking the pirates, who are such a pest along the inland waterways.

At the amateur performances at Shanghai, when the competition for the best seats is keen, the seats are put up to auction. At the sale of seats for the performance of "Les Cloches de Corneville," we read, as much as \$34 was paid for box H., \$33 for box D., \$32 for box E, and up to \$16.50 for dress circle seats. This system has not hitherto commended itself in Hongkong, but it might perhaps be adopted with advantage in the case of the forthcoming entertainment on behalf of the Patriotic Fund, as it would no doubt increase the receipts by several thousand dollars.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

Reports on the recent Volunteer Camp of Instruction are published in Saturday's Gazette, from which we make the following extracts—

REPORT OF MAJOR MORRIS, ACTING COMMANDANT.

Numbers.—Out of a total strength of 24 Officers, 282 N. C. Officers and men, and 11 un-enrolled boys, 21 Officers, 241 N. C. Officers and men, and 10 boys attended the camp of Instruction, for periods varying from 1 to 10 days, between the dates 20th to 30th October, 1899.

Conduct.—The behaviour in camp was all that could be desired. The attendance at drills was good throughout, and thorough attention paid to the instruction given.

The shooting of the Field Battery was good and great attention was paid to fire discipline, which shewed a marked improvement towards the end of the camp.

In the Machine Gun Companies as much time as possible was devoted to gun drill and fire discipline. Gun practices were held on three separate occasions with instructions in clearing jams, &c.

"A" Machine Gun Company shot well and shewed a good knowledge of fire discipline.

In the competition at the end of the course held at Lai-Chi-Kok on Saturday, the 28th October, the following marks were obtained. The target consisted of 33 targets of varying sizes representing a column advancing with its front covered by skirmishers. Range about 950 yards:

"A" COMPANY.

Targets hit... 24
Hits on targets... 162
Marks for fire discipline... 40 out of 50

"B" COMPANY.

Targets hit... 23
Hits on targets... 145
Marks for fire discipline... 25 out of 50

"C" COMPANY.

Targets hit... 15
Hits on targets... 128
Fire discipline... 25 out of 50

From the above it will be seen that "A" company proved itself the best at shooting and fire discipline, but I consider that "B" and "C" companies also did extremely well taking into consideration that they have only been formed during the last 6 months.

These two companies shew the greatest interest in their work and I have small doubt but that in the course of the next year they will be on an equal footing with "A" Company.

Infantry.—The Infantry Company being rather few in numbers were combined for drill purposes with the "E" Engineer Company, which is similarly armed with rifles. I consider that the Infantry Company will in the course of the next year become a most efficient Unit. They are under the instruction of a very able Non-Commissioned officer from the Royal Welch Fusiliers and shew the greatest interest and keenness in their work. A large number of the men of this Company are old Volunteers, having served in Volunteer Battalions in England and elsewhere.

The report on the Technical Instruction of the "E" Engineer Company has already been made by Lieut. Bagnall-Wilde, R.E. A copy is attached.

As already mentioned they were instructed in their duties as Infantry with "D" Company and were most assiduous and painstaking. They shewed a most marked improvement by the end of the course.

A recruits' course of musketry was carried out by all Units but owing to the small amount of S. A. Ammunition allowed to the Corps in Part I, Schedule 15, of the Volunteer Regulations a further course could not be carried out. I would suggest that the allowance of S. A. Ammunition should be in future provided on the following scale:—

Per recruit... 28 rounds
Per efficient... 75 rounds

This does not alter the present rate per Efficient, but is merely asking for an allowance for Recruits, there being no such provision at present.

On the 26th October a night attack was made on the Camp at Stonecutters' and afforded the officers and men very useful instruction.

attach a report from Major A. Chapman, O. C. Field Battery.

LIEUT. BAGNALL WILDE'S REPORT ON THE ENGINEER COMPANY.

A table is given showing the numbers as follows:—Engine Drivers.—No. enrolled, 10; No of attendances 114, No. of practices, 19; average percentage of attendances 75.8; No. qualified, all. The number includes one officer. One man commenced on the fifth practice. Electricians.—No. enrolled, 10; No. of attendances, 91; No. of practices, 19; average percentage of attendances, 47.9; No qualified, 7. One man never attended at all. One man commenced on the ninth practice.

All those in this table marked as qualified are capable of taking charge and working any portion of the defence lights under the supervision of one R.E. Non-Commissioned Officer who would be in charge of one section.

The course has consisted of practice in running the lights and in lectures on the principles of working.

The Engine Drivers are by far the best all round.

Lieutenant Mitchell has been through a course of Engine Driving and has had practice in directing the lights from O.C.S.M.'s Station. He will also be put through a course of Electric Lighting.

The 2 Non-Commissioned Officers (Sergeant Graham, Electrician, and Corporal Warwick, Engine Driver) have done very well, and I have the highest opinion of them in every way.

At present no qualification reports have been issued. It is proposed to do this shortly.

After a man is qualified he will have to attend, if an Electrician, 1 practice every 2 months, if an Engine Driver, 1 practice every 6 months.

As a Company, I think that they will be invaluable to us on mobilization as we shall be able to depend on them for relief on the Electric Light work.

REPORT OF MAJOR CHAPMAN, OFFICER COMMANDING FIELD BATTERY.

Sir,—I have the honour to report on the work of the Field Battery during the recent Camp of Instruction at Stonecutters' Island.

2. The Camp opened at 5 p.m. on Friday, October 20th, and closed at 8.30 a.m. on Monday, October 30th.

3. I attach a statement of the various drills and parades during the Camp.

4. Gun practices took place on Wednesday, 25th, from Stonecutters' over a Sea range, and Saturday, 28th, over a Land range from a point near the old Customs Station at Lai-Chi-Kok.

5 Instruction in gun-laying was given daily, and evoked great interest and much competition. A very marked improvement has latterly taken place in laying, the excellent result of the course of instruction were to be observed at the practice on 28th when the lay could hardly have been better. Six additional men qualified as gun-layers during the Camp.

6. The Battery formed part of the defence during the attack on Stonecutters' Island and the Mine Fields on the 26th, and displayed great keenness in the operations, and intelligence in carrying out the various orders.

7. During the very limited time set apart for the Battery, 31 men were put through the Recruit's Course of Musketry.

8. The attendance was exceedingly good; out of a total strength of 95 of all ranks, no less than 87 were present in Camp for periods varying from 3 to 10 days.

9. The average daily attendance was 60.

10. The conduct of the Battery was excellent.

11. I wish to record the indebtedness of the Battery to the Adjutant. Captain Bland, R. A. It was principally due to that Officer's example and his untiring energy that the success of the Camp was assured.

At the conclusion of evensong on Sunday at St. John's Cathedral, Mrs. H. E. Sharp rendered the recitative "Open unto me" and the aria "I will extol Thee," from Costa's "Eli," and Gounod's "Glory to thee." The soloist, who possesses a very fine and highly-trained soprano voice, was accompanied at the organ by Mr. A. Gordon Ward, and was listened to by a large congregation. The singing was much enjoyed.

THE VOLUNTEERS AND THE KOWLOON DISTURBANCES.

The following despatches relative to the services rendered by the Hongkong Volunteers in connection with the occupation of the New Territory were laid before the Legislative Council yesterday.—

GOVERNOR TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,

Hongkong 15th September, 1899.

Sir,—In my despatch No. 107 of 28th April. I regret to find that in the account of the events connected with the occupation of the New Territory I omitted to mention the services of the Hongkong Volunteers.

2.—Having received information on the 15th April that there was a project on foot for attacking the Yaumati Suburb and Kowloon from the Castle Peak direction and finding that large numbers of Chinese had been observed at Castle Peak with banners, &c., I requested the Naval Authorities to send a vessel of war to the Yaumati side of Kowloon Peninsula, there to keep her search light on the northern shore and another to Kowloon Bay, to search the Chinese city with her light, while the Officer in Command of the Troops was requested to send a strong patrol to the Kowloon peninsula.

3. A considerable portion of the Garrison was away at Táipó-hü with Major-General Gascoigne, and after consultation I agreed with Colonel Elsdale, R.E., that having regard to the peculiar condition of Hongkong it would not be prudent to further reduce the regular Garrison. I therefore ordered that the duty should be entrusted to the Hongkong Volunteers, and having regard to the fact that the order was issued only at 10 p.m., I think the Hongkong Volunteers deserve credit for the large muster that was able to march off at 10.45 p.m. How the duty was performed the attached report will show. The result of the practical demonstration of the utility of the force has been shown by the increase in numbers of the Corps from 120 to 350 men. At their present strength and constituted as they are I agree with the Major-General Commanding that the Hongkong Volunteers form a valuable addition to the strength of the Garrison.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble Servant,

HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor, &c.

The Right Honourable Joseph Chamberlain, M.P.

FROM CAPTAIN W. ST. O. BLAND, R.A., ADJUTANT HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS,
TO MAJOR M. M. MORRIS, R.A., ACTING COMMANDANT, HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

Hongkong, 11th September, 1899.

Sir,—In accordance with instructions received from the Chief Staff Officer, and in the absence of Colonel R. B. Mainwaring, C.M.G., late Acting Commandant, Hongkong Volunteer Corps, I have the honour to submit the following report on the calling out of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps on the evening of 16th April, 1899.

At 10 p.m. on the above date orders were received from Colonel Mainwaring for 3 Maxim Guns manned by the "A" Machine Gun Company with an escort from the Field Battery to parade at Volunteer Head Quarters 10.30 p.m. ready to march off.

4,000 rounds ammunition per Machine Gun, and 30 rounds per Carbine were taken.

The above detail under command of Captain A. Chapman, Hongkong Volunteer Corps, marched off at 10.45 p.m. to Pedder's Wharf. They were here joined by 1 Company Royal Welch Fusiliers.

At 11.30 p.m. the whole force under Colonel Mainwaring, C.M.G., embarked on board 3 launches and proceeded to Tsim Tsa Tsui which was reached about midnight.

On arrival the guns and escort were immediately disembarked and marched to the North end of Yaumati where the following dispositions were made by Colonel Mainwaring:—

1 gun under Lieut. F. Maitland and Lieut. M. W. Slade, Hongkong Volunteer Corps, and provided with an escort from Royal Welch Fusiliers and Field Battery, Hongkong Volunteer Corps was placed off the new Road, (Station Street) between Ma-ti and Mong-kai-lau.

commanding all approaches from the North and East.

I gun under Captain A. Chapman, Volunteer Corps, and accompanied by Lieut. G. C. Fullerton Hongkong Volunteer Corps, with an escort from the Field Battery Hongkong Volunteer Corps, was placed on the road to the North of the Pumping Station commanding approaches from Kowloon City.

I gun under "A" Coy. Sergeant-Major F. Smyth, and escort Royal Welch Fusiliers were placed in the vicinity of the Yaumati Police Station to command approaches from the direction of the Rifle Ranges.

These approaches were further held by detachments of the Royal Welch Fusiliers. The Yaumati Police Station was told off as the temporary Head Quarters of the Force and Hospital arrangements were here made by Surgeon-Captain J. A. Lawson, Hongkong Volunteer Corps.

Piquets were placed to hold important points, not under the fire of the Machine Guns, and patrols from both the Royal Welch Fusiliers and Field Battery, Hongkong Volunteer Corps were sent out to patrol the approaches some 1 mile to the front.

Nothing occurred during the night and at 6 a.m. next morning the force re-embarked at Yaumati Police Pier for Hongkong.

The members of the Hongkong Corps present on parade were as follows:—

	Staff, Field Battery.	"A" Machine-Gun Co.
Officers.....	3	2
Non-Commissioned		
Officers and Men, 2	59	26
Total, ...	5	61
Grand Total all Ranks	94	28

I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,

WM. ST. C. BLAND, Captain, R.A.,
Adjutant,
Hongkong Volunteer Corps.

SECRETARY OF STATE TO GOVERNOR.

Downing Street, 26th October, 1899.

Sir.—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 265 of the 15th ultimo relative to the services rendered by the Hongkong Volunteers in connection with the occupation of the New Territory.

2.—I have read this despatch with interest and satisfaction, and I highly appreciate the readiness with which the Volunteers responded to the call to duty.

3.—I have caused a copy of this correspondence to be forwarded to the Secretary of State for War.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Governor, Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

THE HEALTH OF THE COLONY.

IMPROVEMENT IN THE DEATH-RATE.

A return showing the death rates for the last twenty years is published in the *Gazette*, and must be regarded as to some extent satisfactory, as it shows that the efforts made to improve the sanitation of the colony in recent years have not been altogether fruitless. Excluding the naval and military populations the average death rate for the fifteen years 1879-93 was 27.16, while during the last five years it has been, including plague, 23.67, and excluding plague, 19.68. The detailed return is as follows:—

THE DEATH RATES FOR THE LAST 20 YEARS.

1879,	33.14
1880,	28.71
1881,	24.07
1882,	26.11
1883,	30.04
1884,	26.91
1885,	32.86
1886,	31.79
1887,	28.59
1888,	31.72
1889,	28.64
1890,	23.19
1891,	23.80
1892,	20.70
1893,	22.70

Average
27.16

	Including Plague	Excluding Plague.
1894,	30.37	19.85
1895,	21.89	21.74
1896,	24.25	19.79
1897,	19.13	19.05
1898,	22.71	17.98

All the above death rates exclude the Military and Naval populations and deaths.

FRANCIS W. CLARK.

Medical Officer of Health.

Hongkong, December, 1889.

WATER RETURN.

LEVEL AND STORAGE OF WATER IN RESERVOIRS ON THE 1ST DECEMBER.

	1898	1899
Tytam 8ft. 10in. below overflow	4ft. 2in. below overflow	
Pokfulam 6ft. 7in. below overflow	7ft. 7in. below overflow	
Wongneicheong	40ft. 1in. below overflow	

	1898	1899
Tytam	352,800,000	349,700,000
Pokfulam	51,640,000	49,350,000
Wongneicheong approx.		1,000,000

Total	404,440,000	400,050,000
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CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN THE CITY OF VICTORIA AND HILL DISTRICT DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER.

	1898	1899
Consumption ...	96,841,000	96,697,000 gals.
Estimated population	197,500	203,000
Consumption per head per day ...	16.3	14.88 gals.

CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN KOWLOON PENINSULA DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER.

	1898	1899
Consumption ...	6,712,000	8,750,000 gals.
Estimated population	26,300	27,500
Consumption per head per day ...	8.5	10.6 gals.

The Government Analyst reports that the water is of excellent quality.

W. CHATHAM.
Pro. D.P.W.

SERIOUS OUTBREAK OF BERI-BERI AMONGST THE CHILDREN OF THE BERLIN FOUNDLING HOUSE.

THE CHILDREN ARE TAKEN TO MACAO AND CARRY THE INFECTION WITH THEM.

SANITARY INSPECTION IMPOSED ON ARRIVALS FROM HONGKONG.

Under date of 12th December our Macao correspondent writes as follows, the Mission referred to being the Berlin Foundling House:—

"A few days ago some German missionaries came over from Hongkong and took the house next to Hing Kee's Hotel (lately the Telegraph Office) and another house on the Praya near Government House. On last Thursday or Friday they brought over about a hundred children, all Chinese, who were placed in the two houses named, about seventy in the one adjoining Hing Kee's Hotel and the remainder in the other. Unfortunately the day before yesterday two or three deaths occurred. A licence was of course required for the interment, and what was the certifying doctor's surprise when he found the houses crowded and a large number of the children suffering from beri-beri! The authorities on learning this at once ordered the removal of all the inmates of the two houses to the new plague hospital.

"The sanitary inspection of the Hongkong steamer, the *Heungshan*, was commenced yesterday.

"Beri-beri is considered by many to be worse than plague, and much indignation prevails at the introduction of the disease into Macao in this way. Strict precautions should be taken by the Government to prevent such an occurrence.

"The unfortunate people affected must be suffering much inconvenience by being confined in a small building like the plague hospital, but the Government must protect the health of the public."

MARRIAGE OF BRITISH SUBJECTS IN CHINA BY THE CLERGY OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

The following letter has been issued by the Bishop of Victoria to the Clergy of the Diocese in South China:—

TO THE CLERGY OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN SOUTH CHINA.

My dear Brethren,—As some doubts exist with regard to the legality of marriages solemnized by Clergy in China, I think it well to give you the following information.

Many years ago the Law Officers of the Crown decided that the "Marriages in Foreign countries facilitating Act," by which Consular officers were authorized to perform marriages, did not affect the established validity of marriages solemnized by Clerks in Holy Orders. In accordance with this decision marriages have throughout been regularly solemnized in Shanghai by the use of the religious ceremony alone, and have been duly registered by the Registrar-General in London. No subsequent Act has in any way affected the position in respect to the validity of such marriages.

In A. D. 1889 certain difficulties having arisen with regard to the verification by a Consul of the signature of a Clergyman in the certificate of a marriage solemnized in West China, various questions about such marriages were referred to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. The reply, dated "Foreign Office Dec. 6th, 1899" was as follows:—

"I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd ult.: with reference to the legality of marriages celebrated by a Clerk in Holy Orders between British subjects, whether in the interior of China or elsewhere within that Empire, as to the certificates to be granted of such marriages, and their registration by Her Majesty's Consuls in China.

"In reply I am to state to you that it appears to be well established and free from doubt that such marriages are perfectly valid according to English law."

It is further stated in the same letter that such marriages cannot be registered in British Consulates, but that instructions would be issued to H.M. Consular officers to verify, if requested to do so, the signature of a clergyman in a certificate of such a marriage.

Such marriages are frequently solemnized in the Dioceses of Mid, North, and West China, in Shanghai, Tientsin, Chefoo, Szachuen, and elsewhere; copies of the Registers are sent to the Registrar-General in London, and duly acknowledged by him.

There need therefore be no doubt as to the validity of marriages solemnized by the Clergy, without any civil form, whether in the Treaty ports or in the Interior of China.

In order that the solemnization of such marriages may be duly safeguarded, I request that the following practice be followed by the Clergy in South China.

(1)—Banns should be published in accordance with the rules of the Prayer Book.

(2)—Full entries should be made in Registers kept for the purpose; and copies should be forwarded to the Registrar-General in London, and also to the Bishop for entry in the Diocesan Register.

(3)—Marriages where either of the parties is not a British subject should not be solemnized without full consultation with the Consul of the nationality concerned.

(4)—In all cases it is the duty of the Clergy to assure themselves, as far as possible, that those who desire their services, whether they be British subjects or not, understand the laws of the Church, and will not be violating canonical regulations by their union.

I append a form of Application for the solemnization of marriage, which I recommend for use.—Believe me, yours faithfully in Christ.

J. C. VICTORIA.

Hongkong, 17th November, 1899.

Madame Konorah's performance in the Theatre Royal on Saturday evening was well attended, and the War Relief Fund, towards which ten per cent. of the proceeds are to be devoted, will benefit thereby. Mr. Musket gave a capital rendering of Kipling's stirring poem, copies of which were sold in aid of the fund.

THE DAIRY FARM CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to shareholders at the third ordinary yearly meeting, to be held at the Company's Depot, Wyndham Street, on Monday, 18th December, at noon:—

The directors herewith present to the shareholders a statement of the Company's accounts for the year ended 31st July, 1899.

The profit for the year (including \$2,212.09 brought forward from last account), after writing off \$8,747.05 for depreciation, providing for bad and doubtful debts, and directors' and auditor's fees, amounts to \$5,717.71, from which it is proposed that a dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum be paid, leaving \$2,117.71 to be carried forward.

DIRECTORS.

On the departure, on leave, of Mr. Granville Sharp, Dr. Noble, and Captain Tillett, Mr. F. Maitland was asked to join the Board. His appointment requires to be confirmed at this meeting.

Captain Tillett and Mr. Maitland retire by rotation, and being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

The Board have to regret the sudden death, while at home, of Mr. Granville Sharp, who was one of the original directors of the old Company, and who has always stood by the two Companies in their vicissitudes and misfortunes.

AUDITOR.

The annexed accounts have been audited by Mr. F. Henderson, who offers himself for re-election for the current year.

A. TILLITT, Chairman.

Hongkong, 7th December, 1899.

BALANCE SHEET 31st JULY, 1899.

To capital, 10,000 shares at \$7.50 each	\$ 75,000.00
Less not called up \$1.50 per share	15,000.00
	60,000.00

To accounts payable	6,305.47
To profit and loss	5,717.71
	12,023.18

By cattle	\$37,755.38	\$ 0.
Less written off	7,735.38	
	30,000.00	
By property farm lots 18, 19, 25 and 38	12,000.00	
By buildings	10,790.00	
By town depot	9,000.00	
By stores and utensils	\$2,581.67	
By less written off	961.67	
	1,620.00	

By furniture	240.00
By cash in hand	263.96
By accounts receivable	6,509.22
By fodder on hand	1,800.00
	\$72,023.18

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

To written off cattle	\$7,785.38
To written off stores and utensils	961.67
	8,747.05
To bad debts	199.62
To directors' and auditor's fees	825.00
To balance	5,717.71
	\$15,439.38

By balance from last year	\$ 2,212.09
By balance of working account	13,227.29
	\$15,439.38

WATKINS LIMITED.

On Saturday at noon a general meeting of Watkins Limited was held at the Registered Office of the Company, No. 66, Queen's Road Central. Mr. G. A. Watkins presided and there were also present Messrs. P. Dinroch, W. H. Gaskell, E. J. Grist, J. Goodchild, J. R. Michael, W. Osborne, Chan A Fook, Fung Tung, and Fung Loi, representing 600 shares.

The CHAIRMAN said—We have met to-day, gentlemen, in accordance with the Companies' Ordinance, which lays down that a meeting of shareholders of every new company must be held within four months of its registration. The company was registered on the 16th August, and this the statutory meeting (which has been duly advertised in the *Daily Press*) is called in compliance with our local Ordinance. We have no business to lay before the shareholders, but if you have any questions to ask I shall be

pleased to answer them to the best of my ability. The whole of the ten thousand shares have been taken up and paid for in full. Aerated water plant and machinery ordered from England is due to arrive next month, and we hope to have our factory in full working order by March, or the early part of April. The business, which has been carried on for the benefit of the company since the 1st of January, 1899, is eminently satisfactory and at our first annual general meeting, which will be held during March next, we hope to submit a report and recommend such a dividend as will be agreeable to you all. This, gentlemen, is all the business before us to-day. I thank you very much for your attendance.

RAUB AUSTRALIAN GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

The November crushing at Raub yielded 2,100 ounces of amalgam from 1,050 tons of stone treated.

A dividend of a shilling per share has been declared on the shares of the Raub Australian Gold Mining Co., Limited, payable on the 15th January, and a call of the same amount has been made.

The *Malay Mail* hears that the big Raub dam at Sempan has burst, doing tremendous damage. It is true that a Raub dam has burst; it is not, however, the large Sempan dam, but, as we are informed at the office of the company, the dam at Bukit Koman, which is a considerably smaller dam. This is the dam which is intended to store water for use at the battery. Also the bursting of the dam is not a serious affair. The damage is not tremendous, but very slight.—*Straits Times*.

THE JELEBU MINING AND TRADING CO., LIMITED.

The General Agents of the Jelubu Mining and Trading Co., Limited, Messrs. Huttenbach Brother & Co., write as follows to the *Singapore Free Press* of 28th November:—

"With reference to your yesterday's paragraph re The Jelubu Mining and Trading Co., Ltd, we would point out that your remarks as to the lode having for the moment disappeared, might be construed to mean that the whole lode had pinched out.

"This, however, is not the case, inasmuch as there are three lodes, only one of which, has, for the present, been lost, but which, it is hoped, may be picked up again.

"But even if this should not be the case, and even if the other lodes should also disappear, which the Company has no reason to anticipate, the Mining Manager is of the opinion, that the quantity of payable quartz at present in sight will keep the stamps fully engaged for at least five years."

The following telegram received from Jelubu, dated 2nd December, has been published at Singapore:—

"Had very successful trial crushing this afternoon; all machinery working well; permanent crushing will commence on Friday morning. Number one lode east 160 level (which had recently pinched out) shows great improvement; lode may make short distance; holed through winze at 160 feet from 110 feet level; lode probably three feet instead of one; prospects are encouraging."

The General Agents of the Jelubu Mining and Trading Co., Limited, Singapore, have received the following telegram from Jelubu, dated 6th Dec.:—"Permanent crushing (with present water supply) started this morning, everything very satisfactory, all machinery working well."

THE FOOCHOW RACES.

(By Telegram.)

FOOCHOW, 11th December.

Fine weather favoured the race meeting here to-day. The results were as below:—

STEWARDS' CUP—Eskdale.
GRIFFIN STAKES—Buff.
TOTALIZATOR CUP—Dancer.
MIN STAKES—Rebuff.
EDGAR CHALLENGE CUP—Eskdale.
HACK STAKES—Larry.
TRAMER'S CUP—Drummer.

SECOND DAY.

FOOCHOW, 12th December.

The following are the results of to-day's

RACES:—
COMBRADORE CUP—Buff.
FOOCHOW LEGGE—Bandolero.
HAKKAW CUP—Sancho.
HONGKONG CUP—Pluto.
WINTER STAKES—Bandolero.
CHAASER CUP—Buff.
FOOCHOW STAKES—Sirius.

THIRD DAY.

FOOCHOW, 13th December.

The following are the results of to-day's

RACES:—
DORSET CHALLENGE CUP—Sirius.
CLUB CUP—Flyaway.
LADIES' PURSE—Sancho.
MANCHU STAKES—Black Knight.
CONSOLATION CUP—Hope.
CHAMPION STAKES—Hope.
LEDGER CUP—Sancho.

BOWLING MATCH.

CLUB GERMANIA V. HONGKONG CLUB.

12th-13th December 1899.

CLUB GERMANIA.

	12th	13th	Total
Mr. A. Rombach	738	903	1641
" E. Vollbrecht	611	840	1451
" C. H. Lammert	618	846	1464
" Mr. Mirow	642	815	1457
" W. O. E. Spalckhaver	795	668	1463
" E. Plate	696	805	1501
" G. Engel	767	730	1497
" Thiessen	779	703	1482
	5,646	6,310	11,956

HONGKONG CLUB.

	12th	13th	Total
Mr. F. Maitland	769	719	1488
" M. W. Slade	690	744	1434
" E. C. Lane	757	770	1527
" H. Rotherham, R.W.F.	757	752	1509
Hon. A. M. Thomson	700	774	1474
Capt. Warren, R.A.	774	799	1573
Mr. W. B. Walker	795	758	1553
" K. W. Mounsey	763	756	1519
	6,005	6,072	12,077

Hongkong Club wins by 121 points.

FOOTBALL.

HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB VERSUS ENGINEERS INSTITUTE FOOTBALL CLUB.

BY QUIDNUNC.

This match was originally arranged to take place at the Engineers' Headquarters at Causeway Bay, but as some military manoeuvres prevented D and H Co's. Royal Welch Fusiliers bringing off their Shield tie on the Club's ground, the latter was rendered available, and the venue was accordingly changed.

There was a very fair attendance of spectators, but hardly so many as I expected, considering that the Club were playing their only civilian rivals. An even game was expected, but most people, I think, anticipated that the Club would be a little to the good at the finish.

The start was a little delayed, but Mr. F. Browne, Referee, had the ball in motion at 10 past 4 o'clock, the teams being as follows:—
Engineers.—Moore, goal; Lapaley and Dyer, backs; Ritchie, Wilson, and J. Henderson, halves; and Duncan, R. Henderson, Smillie, Tuohy, and Galt, forwards.

Club.—T. H. Kew, goal; Looker and Pinckney, backs; Hancock, C. T. Kew, and Howard, halves; and Lowe, Noble, Danby, H. E. Green, and Ross, forwards.

Play opened in favour of the Engineers, but although the ball was kept principally in the Club half for some time there was no serious attempt at scoring. The first danger came from an

attack of the Club's right wing, when a miss by Dyer gave Noble a clear field. He went away speedily, finishing with a good straight shot, but Moore, the Engineers' goal-keeper, saved well. Lowe met the clearance, but made a feeble attempt from a fine opportunity, placing the ball wide.

At the other end Smillie made a good try from a pass by Tuohy, then the Club were back again, Wilson dispossessing Danby in the nick of time in very close proximity to the goal.

It was not a very entertaining game for the spectators, the backs and half-backs being too much in evidence, rendering ineffectual the attempts at combination by the forwards.

The Engineers just now had the best of the play, but their attempts at goal were very poor. The Club forwards were much more business like. Noble, obtaining possession of the ball, passed well out to Lowe. He transferred right across to the other wing to Ross, who put in an excellent shot, but Moore in goal was quite equal to the occasion and saved splendidly. Not so a little later. Danby, I think, passed out to Lowe, who sent in a high one from well nigh the goal line, which Moore attempted to save, but was unable to hold; the ball dropping into the net.

Play livened up after this, good attempts being made by Smillie and Galt for the Engineers, whilst Lowe nearly added one to the Club score. However, the half time score was Club 1, Engineers nil.

The first half was fairly even, but the Club showed ever so much more method in their attempts at goal.

Soon after the start of the second period it was seen that the Engineers had shot their bolt, for they fared much worse than in the first part of the game. Their forwards never seemed to get going, the Club halves having them well in hand. Their defence worked hard and managed to stave off further disaster, though the Club forwards made several good attempts. Green tricked Ritchie and put in a long well directed shot, just over, and later Danby got right through the defence but finished badly, shooting too high. No addition, however, was made to the score.

The mechanics were not taking their defeat in a sportsman-like manner and several of them adopted very questionable tactics, the play deteriorating very much in consequence. Kew, Howard, and Green were each the worse for the attentions of their opponents, the first and last named being very roughly used. Towards the finish the game was uninteresting.

Result—Club 1, Engineers 0.

The better team, there is no doubt, won. All round they had the advantage, but their superiority was apparent most in their forwards. All the Club players did well, so it is unnecessary to give them praise individually. There are just a couple of flaws I wish to point out. Hancock whilst playing well, makes no difference in his methods when close to his goal and when far away. In the former case he sometimes tries to trick an opponent, regardless of the serious risk if he loses the ball. The game is to kick clear at once even if over the touch line. Danby is rather inclined to get out of his position and at present seems to lack resource for a centre forward. He nevertheless does many brilliant things, one of his chief qualities being that he is always up with the ball. One improvement in the Club team is the greater cohesion between forwards and halves, the lack of which was noticeable in the Engineers team.

The Engineers were strong in goal, backs, and half backs, and when Wilson has got rid of some of his superfluous flesh will be still stronger in the last division. The forwards are yet their weak division. Of course these have been changed about a good deal and this is only what may be expected. Galt on the left was their best forward on Saturday, but Tuohy was not a very helpful partner for him. Tuohy used to be a back. Smillie did not please me at centre and neither of the right wing men did anything very great. Of course it must be remembered that the Club halves are very strong and forwards have to be good to shine against them.

The Engineers are to be congratulated on having got together such a capable team in such a short time, for it must be borne in mind that this is the Club's first season.

HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB V. ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS (REGIMENTAL TEAM).

BY QUIDNUNG.

The Hongkong Football Club has been able to beat all of the Fusiliers Company teams it has met, some of them pretty easily, and on Monday it took on a team selected from the whole regiment.

The sides were:—

Club:—F. H. Kew, goal; Looker and Pinckney, backs; Hancock, C. T. Kew, and Jenkins, halves; and Lowe, Noble, Danby, H. E. Green, and Ross, forwards.

Fusiliers:—Evans, goal; Edwards and Bellis, backs; Jones, Phillips, and Pownell, halves; and Williams, Stevens, Allen, Miller, and Dawson, forwards.

Referee Mr. Duncan.

The first half of the game was evenly contested, but if anything the Club held the advantage. Noble and Danby scored on its behalf and at the interval the score stood—

Club 2, Fusiliers nil.

After a little of the second half had passed a complete change came over the game.

From a brisk attack Dawson put through for the soldiers and immediately afterwards the same player dodged three of his opponents and finished up a really brilliant individual effort by scoring a second goal. This made matters level, but they did not stay so long.

The soldiers forwards were very smart and these successes worked them up to concert pitch.

Very soon they were through again, Williams notching the point with an excellent shot from the right. The Club men were not in a happy mood, their opponents just now completely overrunning them. Lowe and Ross each made good attempts to increase their side's score but with no success and before the end Miller put through another for the Welshmen.

Result, Fusiliers 4

Club 2

The soldiers deserve every credit for the way they pulled the game out of the fire, the whole four goals being obtained in a remarkably short space of time.

Their forwards were a very lively lot, tricky and not afraid of work. Dawson on the outside left should stand a good chance for the Scotland v. The world game. He is very clever but a little selfish.

The Club men were very much off colour. Two stiff games in three days is perhaps a little much.

HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB V. OFFICERS H.M.S. "BARFLEUR."

Although it was only a week ago that the Hongkong Football Club's A team obtained its first victory, up to Wednesday its members could boast of being an unbeaten team. The Officers of H.M.S. *Barfleur* were the cause of their discomfort. Although the A's had the assistance of F. H. Kew, Pinckney, and A. C. R. Greene, they were unable to stave off defeat. There was no score in the first part of the game, but in the second half the officers inside right found himself, through a mis-kick by Pinckney, in a position from whence it was impossible to do otherwise than score. This proved the only point, the result being, Officers H.M.S. *Barfleur* 1, Club A 0. The Officers were the better team, a good pair of backs and Kew's agility in goal saving the A's from a heavier defeat.

H.M.S. "BARFLEUR" v. 25th CO. S.D., R.A.

A well contested game under Association rules, took place at the Happy Valley on Thursday, between teams from H.M.S. *Barfleur* and the 25th Co. S.D., R.A. The sailors scored once and this served to give them the victory. Result, H.M.S. *Barfleur* 1, 25th Co S.D., R.A., 0. The teams have met once before this season, on 27th of last month. The *Barfleur* came off the better on that occasion, winning by the narrow margin of two goals to one.

HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB V. ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS.

A month ago, it will be remembered, the Hongkong Football Club met the Royal Welsh Fusiliers in a match under Rugby rules and beat them by 3 tries—9 points, to nil. On Thursday the return game was played, when the Welshmen again went under, receiving a much more severe drubbing than before. The Club

were superior at all points and ran up the score of 1 goal and 6 tries—23 points, to their opponents nothing.

FOOTBALL NOTES.

BY QUIDNUNG.

11th December.

Matches played during the week:—

Monday, 4th Dec.—

Hongkong F.C., 3 goals, F Co. R.W.F. 0

Wednesday, 6th Dec.—

Hongkong F.C., A team, 1 goal, H.M.S. *Endymion* 0

H. Co. R.W.F. 1 goal, V.R.C. 0

Saturday, 9th Dec.—

Hongkong F.C., 1 goal Engineers Institute 0

Looker at back, is playing a better game than he has done for a couple of seasons. This is fortunate as in addition to the Club just being in want of a man for that department, the position is the one best suited to the performance of a captain's duties. Hitherto this season the backs have been the weak division of the Club, but with Pinckney again in the team and Looker playing so well the eleven is now sound, if I may use the expression, from stem to stern.

There is one special feature of Saturday's match, Club v Engineers Institute, that I wish to remark on here and that is the undue amount of feeling introduced into the game by the Engineers. I am no advocate of the "Excuse me, but it is my unpleasant duty to take the ball from you" game, but there are limits; and I like to see a player go on the field with the intention of not only observing the rules but of also recognizing the spirit of them.

A football player should not begin a game intent on winning at all costs even if it involves the shedding of blood, let him desire the victory never so much. If an opponent can get the better of you be manly enough to take your defeat and don't resort to measures altogether inconsistent with a Briton's idea of fair play. Two or three of the Club players received severe shakings from their opponents, which took away a considerable amount of their effectiveness for the rest of the game. Three or four of the Engineers were guilty of a good deal of very questionable play, especially during the second half of the game, and it could be very plainly noticed that the Club men got very loth to come to close quarters with them for fear of the physical consequences. I suppose Mr. Browne, being Secretary of the Hongkong Football Club, was reluctant to use the powers invested in him as referee, for he certainly was lenient with the offenders. I hold no brief for the Club but I must say that its players are most scrupulous in their action on the field and I certainly would sooner come off the field, one of them, beaten by five goals to nil, than one of a team guilty of the tactics I have mentioned, winners by twice that score.

The Engineers have not many players at their disposal, but most of those they have got are distinctly good men and the team as a whole is exceptionally strong for a new Club. I wish them every success and hope they will never give cause again for such remarks as the foregoing to be made about them.

I wish to hark back to the match between the Hongkong Football Club and H.M.S. *Barfleur* on Saturday, 2nd instant. Perhaps this game has been the means of removing from the minds of a great many people the delusion that wet weather depreciates the play of the Club team more than that of any other team at present in the colony or likely to come here.

Most people have heard how, a couple of seasons ago, when Kowloon met the Club in a cup tie, the rain beat the latter by 3 goals to one, how in last season's final the rain caused extra time to be played before the Club could win. We have nearly all heard this and of course believe it. Of course.

Personally, I have taken interest in football a good many years and have seen more cup ties, League matches, etc., etc., than I would try to remember or care to count, yet I cannot recollect one instance, in an important game played on a wet day, where the losing team has not been beaten by the weather. The weather is recognized as a legitimate excuse; also the goal keeper. If neither of these can be pleaded the supporters of the defeated team are in a bad

way and have to fall back on minor excuses such as the referee, one or more of the players having been ill, etc., etc., which people will not swallow quite as easily.

One or all of these various causes may bring about a team's downfall, but superior play by the opposing team never. This may appear strange to some not greatly acquainted with the game, but let me assure them that it is a fact universally recognized by the cult.

CRICKET.

HONGKONG C.C. V. TWENTY-TWO OF HONGKONG SCHOOLS.

On Saturday afternoon the Hongkong C.C. met 22 representatives of the Hongkong Schools. In their first innings the Club scored 110, against the Schools 81, the Club having 78 to their credit in the second innings. The Club went in first, but did not make a very good show. Lieut. Wood (35.), E.C. Smith (21), and Lieut. Reinold (14) being the only ones who reached double figures in the first innings. F. Kew (25), R. Pestonjee (12), and R. Basa (11) being the only members of the School team whose scores exceeded ten. In the second innings the Club put together 78 for six wickets, Dr. Browne getting 27 of these, Lieut. Wood 19 not out, and Mr. Mounsey 16. Scores:—

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

First Innings.

Rev. G. R. Vallings, c Remedios, b Herton	3
K. W. Mounsey, run out	4
L. J. Wild, b Herton	4
Rev. F. T. Johnson, b Remedios	4
C. W. Hay, b Herton	1
Lieut. Reinold, R.N., run out	14
Dr. Lowson, c Stuart, b Ruttonjee	2
E. C. Smith, R.N., c Ruttonjee, b Herton	21
Lieut. Wood, R.N., b Pestonjee	35
Dr. Browne, R.N., not out	9
J. Lee, b Herton	7
Extras	6

Total 110

HONGKONG SCHOOLS.

First Innings.

H. Hateen, b Vallings	5
P. Wilshaw, c Lowson, b Vallings	1
E. Remedios, b Vallings	0
J. L. Stuart, c Wild, b Vallings	0
T. W. Shaw, b Lowson	0
R. Basa, c and b Lowson	11
F. Kew, c Wild, b Lowson	25
O. Benjamin, b Lowson	0
J. H. Ruttonjee, c Lee, b Vallings	3
R. Pestonjee, c Mounsey, b Vallings	12
C. Hastings, b Lowson	0
M. B. Asgar, c Wood, b Vallings	0
H. P. Madar, c Reinold, b Lowson	2
G. S. Ford, b Vallings	4
L. Shillingworth, run out	1
R. Soonderam, c Ward, b Vallings	6
E. R. Herton, b Vallings	7
F. Rapp, c Vallings, b Remedios	1
F. Silva Netto, b Vallings	0
B. R. Bayley, c Vallings, b Remedios	0
A. E. Asgar, not out	0
G. S. Woodcock, c and b Reinold	1
Extras	2

Total 81

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

Second Innings.

I. R. Lowson, c Shaw, b Silva Netto	4
Dr. Browne, R.N., b Asgar	27
Lt. Reinold, R.N., c Stuart, b Silva Netto	6
K. W. Mounsey, b Asgar	16
J. L. Lee, b Shaw	0
C. W. Hay, b Ford	3
E. C. Smith, R.N., did not bat	
Lieut. Wood, R.N., not out	19
Rev. G. R. Vallings, not out	5
Rev. Johnson, } did not bat	
J. L. Wild, }	
Extras	2

Total 78

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

First Innings.

Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B.	Wickets.
Herton	26	7	45	—	5
Remedios	9	2	12	1	1
Ruttonjee	12	2	30	—	1
Pestonjee	4	2	17	—	1

HONGKONG SCHOOLS.

First Innings.

Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B.	Wickets.
Lowson	19	12	19	—	6
Vallings	12	5	55	—	11
Reinold	2.1	1	5	—	3

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

Second Innings.

Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B.	Wickets.
F. Silva Netto	6	1	20	—	2
Hateen	8	—	13	—	—
Wilshaw	8	—	9	—	—
Shaw	8	—	14	—	1
Asgar	4	—	10	1	2
Ford	1	—	10	—	1

SHOOTING COMPETITION.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

'C' Machine Gun Company 2nd monthly Carbine Competition took place on Sunday. Result:—

	Sc	H'cap.	
Gunner Miller	79	20	= 99
Lt. Underwood	84	14	= 98
Gr. Baldwin	92	Sc	= 92
Bombdr. Bailey	70	21	= 91
Lt. Duncan	81	8	= 89
Gr. Granville	81	8	= 89
Sgt. Rogers	76	12	= 88
Corpl. Sherwin	70	18	= 88

LAST YEAR'S PLAGUE EPIDEMIO AT CANTON.

Dr. B. Stewart Ringer in his report on the health of Canton for the year ended 31st March 1899, says:—

In the closing paragraph of my report for the year ended 31st March 1898* I noted that bubonic plague had commenced in the Canton city, but had not at that time reached alarming proportions. Subsequently, however, it assumed the character of a serious epidemic, in all probability equal severity to the outbreaks of 1894 and 1896, although, in the absence of any reliable statistics from Chinese sources, it is impossible to make any comparative computations of value. There existed, however, a complete panic amongst the Chinese, and great numbers of the well-to-do natives in order to escape the terror of their surroundings, left the city with their wives and families some to seek their country residences, others to occupy large and well-made house-boats, many of which were to be seen anchored in various parts of the Canton River. In this connexion it is worthy of note that the boating population of Canton is credited with a complete immunity from the disease; and in view of their cleanly habits and open-air lives, there is every reason to place confidence in this belief. It is true that cases were found from time to time on the boats, but were doubtless usually traceable to infection brought from the shore.

The epidemic raged fiercely till July, towards the middle of which month it began to subside.

During the epidemic the sights around Shamien were somewhat appalling dead bodies in various stages of decomposition were frequently seen floating down the river in close proximity to the Bund! indeed the landing-steps seemed to have a peculiarly attracting influence upon them and I have myself seen no less than three corpses lying exposed on the ground in the short distance from the east bridge to the steamer wharf.

By the end of July the panic had quite ceased and many natives returned to their homes in Canton; and though the epidemic may be considered to have ended at that time, doubtless many cases occurred for some time subsequently.

LI HUNG-CHANG'S APPOINTMENT.

A late dispatch from Tientsin states that H. E. Li Hung-chang intends to commence his trade investigations beginning at that port, in which event he may not leave for the Southern ports before the end of the Chinese New Year holidays—20th February, 1900. From Tientsin H. E. will pay Chefoo a visit, then Tsingtao, and from the last named come to Shanghai. It would seem then that the other ports in the Gulf of Pechili, viz: Tientsin, Newchwang, Chinwangtao, etc., will probably be taken on H. E.'s return journey to Peking. With reference to the above a high Chinese official temporarily staying in Shanghai has stated it as his opinion that, should H. E. Li Hung-chang's mission prove a success, the Trade Investigation Commissionership will probably be made a per-

manent post, with headquarters either at Shanghai or Tientsin, the probability being in favour of the latter place.

The local mandarins received yesterday (5th Dec.) telegraphic advices from Peking to the effect that H. E. Li Hung-chang, Grand Secretary and Commissioner of Investigation of Trade at the Treaty Ports, was granted a farewell audience by the Empress Dowager on the 1st instant and started the next day for Tientsin, en route for Southern and Yangtze ports. H. E. was expected to make a short stay at Tientsin, and according to present arrangements is expected here in Shanghai in a few days. Should H. E. arrive here according to schedule time he will probably reside at the Bureau of Foreign Affairs on the Bubbling Well Road. H. E. Li Hung-chang's appointment is only a temporary one.—N. C. Daily News.

REVIVAL OF RUSSIAN CLAIMS AT HANKOW.

We learn that, doubtless taking advantage of England's pressing engagements in South Africa, the Russian Government, through its Consul M. Vahovitch, has revived its claim to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson's land at Hankow, and local relations between the British and Russians are once more assuming a strained appearance. We are given to understand that the Russian Consul claims that the question of the disputed ownership of land has been decided in favour of his Government and that Jardines have no right to the land. But neither the British Consul nor Jardines have any information on the subject.—China Gazette.

THRILLING STORY BY AMERICAN PRISONERS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Benjamin J. Green, coxswain, and George M. Powers, first class apprentice, the sole survivors (as far as is now known) of the luckless gunboat *Urdaneta*, have arrived in Manila on board the *Oregon*, and tell a thrilling tale of their suffering and adventures since the disaster at Orani.

The *Urdaneta* was one of the gunboats purchased from Spain after the war, and was engaged in patrolling and exploring the rivers and creeks at the north end of Manila Bay, towards Bacolor. While taking soundings in the channel leading up to Orani, she got aground on a sandbank. For two or three hours they worked hard trying to get her off, and meantime the natives ashore saw what had happened, and sent word to the insurgent troops at Orani. A strong force marched down quietly through the woods and took up positions on both banks, hidden by undergrowth. Suddenly they opened fire all around on the little vessel, wounding most of the crew at the first volley. Lieut. Wood, who was in command, had with him only twelve men, all told. The lieutenant was wounded in three places during the first few minutes. Promptly sizing up the situation, and seeing that the *Urdaneta* in her immovable position was doomed, he hastily ordered the men to lower the gig and try to make a dash down stream to get out of range, in the hope that some lives at least might be saved. But the position was already hopeless, for the boat was riddled while being launched, and the lieutenant expired as he was being lifted in. By this time seven of the crew were killed or disabled, only Green, Powers, and three others being still active. The insurgents, growing bolder, waded out in the shallow water and overpowered them by sheer force of numbers. The prisoners were carried ashore and also the *Urdaneta's* guns, which General Young recaptured a few days ago in the North. The five men were hurried off to Tarlac, where they stayed for some time, and were then transferred to Vigan, where also were Lieut. Gilmore and the *Yorktown* men. Green and Powers heard a story of General Luna having ordered the *Yorktown* prisoners to be brought out for the execution, and how Lieut. Gilmore asked only to be allowed to die like a soldier, unbound and looking death in the face bravely, whereupon Luna postponed the execution, himself being assassinated shortly afterwards.

The five *Urdaneta* men contrived one night to make a break for liberty, in the confusion consequent on the evacuation of Vigan by the rebels when the *Oregon* was seen approaching and Gen. Young was reported marching on the place. Some of the Spanish prisoners had to be left behind in hurry, but the Americans were taken up into the hills, to be out of Young's way if possible. They made a dash to get free, but were recaptured and ordered to suffer the penalty of death for their attempt. The execution was to take place at daylight, but in the dead of night they crept out of their prison-shack again, eluding the sleepy guards, and slipped off into the black depths of the forest. Hearing a hue and cry behind them, Green and Powers climbed up a tree and hid in the dense foliage at the top, while the Filipinos searched and chased through the woods. What became of the other three Americans is unknown, but as they have not turned up, the worst is feared.

All night long, and all the next day the two sailors crouched among the birds and monkeys in the welcome refuge of the leafy tree-tops, from which they could see and hear their savage foes prowling about in the jungle below, pausing for a few minutes to inspect the very tree they were on. The searchers seemed to think it hardly worth while to institute a climbing competition to find the lost ones, and at last passed on.

After waiting twenty-four hours, to have a better chance of the country being clear of rebel soldiers, the two jockies availed themselves of darkness and warily returned to Mother Earth. They figured that the likeliest direction for freedom was to the south, and in due course they encountered a scouting party of American troops, who turned them over to the *Oregon*.—*Manila Times*.

TIENTSIN.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Tientsin, 28th November.

The Kwangchowwan affair shares with the movement of the Italian squadron the chief if not exclusive attention of the higher Chinese officials. Up till Saturday last it was stated by those best qualified to know that Mons. Pichon had submitted no formal demands and had not even threatened reprisal. The only meaning of this is that he had not received his instructions from the Quai d'Orsay. It was widely known in Peking that he had a very stormy interview with the yamen the previous week. Meanwhile the news that reaches Peking from the South is very conflicting and a god-send to the panic-mongers. The statement that the two French *sous-officiers* were beheaded by the formal judgment of the Chih-fu after examination only finds credit among the credulous. Official ignorance, crass as it often is, can hardly be so great as to warrant the notion that any Chinese mandarin in the position of a Chih-fu would exercise summary jurisdiction over foreigners, even if taken in act of war. Pekingese officialdom refuses to believe this story. All sorts of alarmist reports are in circulation, many of them happily contradictory. For a day or two it was believed that France was actually demanding the entire province of Kwangsi and such other terms as rendered flat refusal imperative. This was succeeded by an incompatible report that Mons. Pichon's terms were so reasonable that the Chinese had yielded everything.

Li Hung-chang's nomination to the new office of Shang-wu Ta-chen, Minister of Commerce, must not be magnified into his re-accession to power. The more intelligent and calm critics think that it is a move originating in the mission of Kang Yi. That official's reports have dealt with lekin and trade passes, and as these matters bristle with difficulties and ultimately affect trade, revenue, and extortion, it has been thought desirable to put an experienced man on to the business, and one whose decisions might command foreign respect.

The situation in Peking is less quiet than a week ago. It was not the intention to ask for a military guard this year either in the Capital or in Tientsin, but the horizon has so darkened within the last few days that our consular authorities have wired to their Admirals for Marines. At present all the extra protection we could invoke would be that of the crew of a

small Japanese gun-boat at Taku. On the other hand we have our own Volunteers, British and German. The former recently applied to the military authorities in Hongkong for the loan of a machine gun, but with what result I do not know.

The Italian business is now an acute and chronic source of uneasiness to the Chinese up here. The Yamen (Tsungli) is well enough informed as to the internal condition of Italy and her total inability to enter on an aggressive or compromising foreign policy, but the idea has become "fixed" that the Foreign Office at Rome is bent on securing some concession or coign of vantage on the coast of China and that the present squadron of cruisers is here for that purpose. The Chinese are feverish on this subject, and one must admit that the attitudes of the Admiral and Minister have a curious resemblance to those of Germany antecedent to the seizure of Kiaochau. There is, however, one marked difference, viz., the resolution of the Chinese to resist force by force in the Italian case.

The *Wan Tai*, the training-ship (corvette) of the Nanyang squadron, arrived at Taku last week with over 100 tons of small ammunition and thirty odd small field pieces (two-pounders) for Prince Ching. No doubt inferences will be drawn from this curious shipment. It is just as well to remember, however, that it has always been customary for the Imperial family to make presents of arms and ammunition to the Mongol princes, and the importation (from Nanking) may have this innocent construction put on it. My chief object in referring to the *Wan Tai* is to point out the summary way she was recalled by telegram. She is the only vessel in the Yangtze flotilla which has air pumps capable of charging the torpedoes, and it was for this she was hurried back. Below Kiangyin the defence of the Great river is chiefly that of submarine mines, and people there have clearly got a scare from the Italians and from the French movements near Kwangchowwan.

Sir Claude MacDonald arrived here to-day and will make a short stay before going on to Peking. Mr. Bax-Ironside did not await the Minister's arrival, and left Peking the day Sir Claude arrived in Shanghai. He will not return to China.

Hongkong "sports" may feel an interest in the report that a syndicate of Shanghai racing men has bought Mr. Detring's fine pony "Set" at a record figure—a figure so big that I fear to lose reputation for sobriety in repeating it. Readers of Xenophon's "Anabasis" might guess if they divided by two. "Set" is undoubtedly the finest pony that has come down from the Plateau to Tientsin for a couple of decades.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

A merchant named Ng Fook-kwong has been allowed by the Viceroy to export local rice from Canton to be shipped to America and Australia on condition that foreign rice to ten times the amount of that exported is to be imported to Canton by him for exchange. His Excellency has also appropriated a sum of \$250,000 from the treasury of the Sin-Han-Kuk for the purchase of rice from foreign countries through the same merchant to be sold in Canton at low prices.

A notorious robber named Sau Piu has sent a letter to the manager of the China Merchants Steam Navigation Company demanding \$10,000 as blackmail. If his request is refused he threatens that he will plunder all the steamers belonging to the said Company. The manager has sent the robber's letter to the Namboi magistrate.

Viceroy Tan Chung-lin has again memorialized the Throne asking earnestly to be allowed to resign his post on account of his sickness and old age and being unable to settle the affairs in Kwangchowwan.

A great fire broke out on the 2nd instant at 2 a.m. in Shekloong. One hundred and twelve houses were completely destroyed before the fire was extinguished. No loss of life is reported.

The cases of communicable disease reported last week were three of enteric fever in the harbour, imported from Canton and Shanghai, and one fatal case of bubonic plague.

HONGKONG.

There were 2,498 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 190 were Europeans. The appointment of Mr. E. R. Hallifax to be a Police Magistrate is gazetted.

The stamp revenue last month was \$20,788, being an increase of \$5,276 on the amount collected in the corresponding month last year.

The appointment of Mr. C. McI. Messer to be a Police Magistrate and Justice of the Peace in the New Territory is gazetted.

The subscriptions to the South African War Sailors' and Soldiers' Families' Fund now amount to \$57,783.

The maximum temperature last month was 80.5, on the 11th, and the minimum 50.7, on the 28th, the mean for the month being 67.8. The rainfall amounted to 1.64 inch.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that H.E. the Governor has been pleased to recognise Mr. J. J. Leiria as Vice-Consul for the United States of Brazil at Hongkong.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that H.E. the Governor has been pleased to recognise Mr. C. Montorio as in charge of the Spanish Consulate during the absence of Mr. A. Spagnolo.

The appointments of Major H. H. Brown, R.A.M.C., Mr. Fung Wa Chun, Mr. Chan Fook, and Dr. F.W. Clark, Medical Officer of Health, to be members of the Sanitary Board, for three years are gazetted.

The twelve subscription griffins which arrived by the *Amara* were drawn by Dr. Jordan, the Hon. J. J. Keswick, Mr. J. H. Lewis, Mr. Nowmjee, Mr. A. Babington, Mr. J. McKie, the Hon. F. H. May, Mr. D. Gillies, Major Sir H. McMahon, Mr. Paul Jordan, Mr. Jupp, and Mr. C. Hawkins.

At a smoking concert given at the Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders on Saturday evening Mr. W. Muskett recited Kipling's "The Absent-minded Beggar"—which he had recited earlier in the evening at the City Hall—and on the hat being sent round a sum of \$100 was collected for the Patriotic Fund.

Some years ago, when Sir G. T. M. O'Brien was Colonial Secretary, "Mr." and "Esq." were dropped from *Government Gazette* notifications and the plain names given except in cases where the use of military, naval, or other legally recognised titles was correct. At present no rule seems to be followed. In Saturday's *Gazette* Fung Wa Chun and Chan Fook are both given the title of Esq., J. J. Leiria is a plain Mr., while E. R. Hallifax, C. McI. Messer, C. Montorio, and A. Spagnolo have no handles to their names. Why this discrimination?

On Tuesday evening the usual weekly concert was given by the men of the Royal mail steamer *Empress of Japan*. The programme, which was prepared by A. B. Baldwin, who took the chair, was excellent and gave great satisfaction to those who were present. Many of the songs were quite new to the audience, but not a few were old favourites. Notable among these were the well known chanty "Rolling home to merry England" and the beautiful old song "Annie Laurie." The solos by P. Inge, the step dance by Quartermaster Harriet, and the Highland Fling by Wilson, were greatly appreciated, and each was recalled. The promoters are highly to be congratulated upon the success they achieved, and it is hoped that when next the ship is in port they may be induced to provide another evening's entertainment.

The Installation of Bro. G. W. Crombie, as Wor. Master of United Service Lodge No. 1,341 E.C., took place on the 8th inst. The ceremony of Installation was performed by the D. G. M. Right Wor. Bro. C. P. Chater, C.M.G. assisted by his D.G.L. Officers. The following officers were invested for the ensuing year by Wor. Bro. G. W. Crombie:—S.W. Bro. G. W. Watling, J.W. Bro. G. G. Burnett, Treasurer Wor. Bro. H. J. Watson, P.M.; Sec. Wor. Bro. G. J. W. King, P.M.; S.D. Bro. F. Stainton; J.D. Bro. E. A. Hickman; D.C. Bro. H. W. Wolfe; Steward, Bro. W. H. Woolley; Steward, Bro. Lacock, I.G. Bro. I. A. Wheel, Tyler, Wor. Bro. J. R. Grimble. The brethren afterwards sat down to a banquet, at which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. The banqueting hall was tastefully decorated for the occasion.

The appointment of Captain E. G. Waymouth, R.A., to be Adjutant of the Volunteer Corps during the absence on leave of Captain W. St. C. Bland, R.A., is gazetted.

On Saturday afternoon the Hongkong Volunteer Corps took part with the remainder of the garrison in tactical exercise, going up to the Peak early and returning at about seven o'clock in the evening.

H.M.S. *Endymion* left for Weihaiwei on Thursday. She took with her a steam-launch, intended for surveying purposes, which has been built to Government order by Messrs. Geo. Fenwick & Co., Limited.

The flag of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank was flying at half-mast on Tuesday in consequence of news having been received by wire of the death of Mr. F. N. Firth, a member of the staff. Mr. Firth went home last year on account of ill health, but the change did not appear to benefit him, and his friends have been much distressed by the accounts received from time to time of his condition. The last report by mail was that he had to be wheeled in a bath chair and could only go out for an hour or two a day. Mr. Firth was highly esteemed by his fellow members of the Bank staff and all who knew him.

The Portuguese community of this colony, as well as of the northern and southern ports, will be glad to learn that news reached Macao on the 15th inst., by telegram, of the favourable decision by the judges of the Appellate Court at Goa in the case of Mr. Basto and the editor of the *Echo Macaense*. The sentence passed by Justice Magalhães upon Mr. Basto and the editor was condemned *in toto* and consequently revoked, and it is said that the Attorney-General, Mr. Pinheiro, was censured for promoting a "no case." We hear that Mr. Basto's services to the public are to be recognised by the presentation to him of a testimonial.

The remains of the late Rev. Dr. Chalmers were interred Sunday afternoon. There was a large attendance both of Europeans and Chinese, amongst those present being Viscount Suidale representing H.E. the Governor, the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Colonial Secretary, Sir Thomas Jackson, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Mr. A. McConachie, Dr. Kerr, of Canton, Mr. D. Gillies, Dr. G.H. Bateson Wright, Mr. C. Ford, etc., etc. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. T. Pearce, and an address was delivered in Chinese by the Rev. Wong Yat-tso, who had been Dr. Chalmers's assistant and co-worker for many years. Mr. Wong was deeply moved as he dwelt upon the life and work of his deceased friend.

The following returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 30th November, as certified by the Managers of the respective Banks, are published:—

Banks.	Average amount.	Specie in reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China,	\$2,990,414	\$1,500,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	7,531,433	5,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited,	446,265	150,000
Total	\$10,968,112	\$6,650,000

A novel steam-launch has been built at Shanghai by Mr. Nelson, of the Electric Light Works, or rather the Shanghai—E.S. & Dock Co., for Mr. Nelson. The launch is fitted with a water-tube boiler, and burns kerosine oil. The peculiarity of the engine, as described by the *China Gazette*, is that it always runs the same way and at a constant speed, and is controlled by a Pickering governor, the reversing being done by reversing the blades of the propeller, which simplifies matters greatly, as one man can do the work of two, as he has a lever along the side of the wheel, which he can work with his right hand without being dependent on the engineer at all. If he wants to go ahead he drops the lever forward of him, and to stop her brings it to the centre, then the blades have no pitch on them; when astern he brings it right back; but the beauty of it is that he can get any pitch he wishes, from 0 to the full pitch.

The late Mr. Granville Sharp's body was, in accordance with his direction, cremated. We hear that his ashes, also in accordance with his directions, are being brought to Hongkong for interment and that they may be expected to arrive in the course of two or three weeks.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1899-1900	1898-99
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	24,863,295	23,738,762
Kobe	12,961,810	12,166,816
	37,824,935	35,905,578

SILK.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1899-1900	1898-99
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	55,314	35,322
Canton	18,667	17,207
Yokohama	15,708	12,287
	89,689	64,916

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1899-1900	1898-99
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	10,333	3,293
Canton	5,975	6,329
Yokohama	20,108	13,091
	36,416	23,616

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 15th December.—Prices are rather firmer. Quotations for Formosa are \$84.00 to \$84.50 sales 450 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 15th December.—Prices are falling again, under the influence of large arrivals. Quotations are:

Shanghai, No. 1, White...	\$8.45 to \$8.50	pel.
do. " 2, White...	7.75 to 7.80	"
Shanghai, No. 1, Brown...	5.60 to 5.65	pel.
do. " 2, Brown...	5.45 to 5.50	"
Swatow, No. 1, White...	8.25 to 8.30	"
do. " 1, White...	7.45 to 7.50	"
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	5.45 to 5.50	"
do. " 2, Brown...	5.40 to 5.45	"
Goodlow Sugar Candy...	12.15 to 12.20	"
Shanghai	11.10 to 11.15	"

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per P. & O. steamer *Machao*, sailed on the 28th November. For London:—1,256 boxes tea (26,376 lbs. congou, 4,562 boxes tea 95,802 lbs. So. caper, 85 boxes tea 1,785 lbs. So. Pekoe) 750 packages particulars unknown, 809 chests tea, 357 boxes tea, and 872 packages tea from Manila, 70 bales canes, 367 bales waste silk, 150 bales and 4 cases feathers, 12 cases bristles, 5 cases cowtail hair, 10 cases blackwood-ware, 8 cases meat extract, 17 cases cigars, 30 cases indigo, 7 cases curries, 35 cases effects, 16 cases wine, 2,282 cases and 300 casks preserves, 366 cases and 49 bags shells, 22 h'nds ale, 11 packages chairskin, and 35 packages sundries. For London option Liverpool:—200 bales hemp For London option Manchester:—385 bales waste silk. For London option Hamburg:—250 cases dry ginger. For London option Antwerp option Hamburg:—140 bales selected cassia and 51 boxes bristles. For Liverpool:—1 case cigars. For Manchester:—100 bales waste silk. For Hamburg:—220 bales canes, and 100 rattans shaving. For Antwerp:—156 bales split bamboo. For Colombo:—770 bags beans, 2:9 bags cigar, 20 bags sugar candy, 484 bales garlic, and 51 boxes preserves.

Per P. & O. steamer *Clyde*, sailed on the 9th December. For London:—2 cases bristles, 2 cases cigars and silk from Manila, 1 case silks, 1 case cigars, 1 case cotton goods, and 3 cases sundries. For Manchester:—25 bales waste silk. For Lyons:—100 bales raw silk. For Marseilles:—2 cases silks.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 15th December.—A strong demand has been experienced from Canton and prices show a further advance. Quotations are:—

Suigon, Ordinary	\$2.90 to 2.95
" Round, Good quality	3.20 to 3.35
" Long	3.60 to 3.65
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ...	3.25 to 3.30
" Garden, " No. 1 ...	3.60 to 3.65
" White	3.85 to 3.90
" Fine Cargo	4.20 to 4.25

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 15th December.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarn*—50 bales No. 6 at \$96, 50 bales No. 8 at \$77, 1,800 bales No. 10 at \$81 to \$90, 650 bales No. 12 at \$76 to \$88, 100 bales No. 16 at \$91, to \$97, 1,200 bales No. 20 at \$95 to \$103. *Grey Shirtings*—500 pieces 8½ lbs. Red 7 boys at \$3, 500 pieces 10 lbs. 2 Stags at \$4.45, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Little Stag at \$4.50, 500 pieces Flowers Vase at \$1.60, 500 pieces 10 lbs. and Horse at \$4.42, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Palm chop at \$4.57, 500 pieces 8½ lbs. 3 Dogs at \$6.55. *White Shirtings*—500 pieces No. 600 at \$4.95, 500 pieces Gold Elephant at \$4.82, 500 pieces Gold Tiger at \$6.85, 500 pieces Flower at \$5.47, 500 pieces No. 60 at \$4.92, 500 pieces Gold Goose at \$4.85, 400 pieces Blue Lion at \$6.70, 250 pieces 600 at \$4.9, 500 pieces 8 Q at \$4.90, 500 pieces 8 Q at \$4.87. *T. Oloffe*—750 pieces 7 lbs. Red Stag at \$4.87, 600 pieces 8 lbs. V V at \$3.27, 600 pieces 8 lbs. X X at \$3.32, 750 pieces 7 lbs. No. 2 Blue Lion at \$20.05, 750 pieces 7 lbs. No. 2 Silver Lion at \$2, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Red Stag at \$2.67, 600 pieces 8 lbs. Hunter and Stag at \$3.37.

SHANGHAI, 7th December.—(From Messrs. Noell, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report). Piece Goods.—During the short interval that has elapsed since our last Report business has not been very extensive or general, but there is more evidence of the intention of the dealers to invest in goods for the re-opening of the trade. The last steamers for Tientsin cleared yesterday, and although that Port will not be quite so cut off from communication with the rest of the world as formerly no further shipment will be made for the next three months. At the close we learn there is a better demand in that market for Yarns. Generally speaking the market here has not responded as yet to the advances at the producing centres to any adequate extent, but that Importers hardly expect; however, with few exceptions they do not care to sell forward, and only for prompt cash can be persuaded to part if a fair profit is offered. The Szechuen men have recovered their courage and are paying up on a fairly liberal scale, but the Tientsin merchants will only buy if very cheap. The business reported includes several resales, on which the natives make substantial profits, but they are a long way below replacing cost. So far as reported the business has been entirely in English makes. The Auctions show a decidedly firmer tendency, especially for Gray goods. We are able to publish this week on the page 1195 the usual comparative Table of Re-Exports to Newchwang, from which will be noticed the really startling progress the Trade with the Port has made during the last season. This certainly is a strong refutation of the fears that have been so freely expressed of the baneful influence to be expected from the incursions of the Russians into the Northern Provinces of China. The prosperity of the Country must be improving by leaps and bounds, for the figures published show, not only an increase in the heavy makes of goods, that might be required for the use of the coolies engaged on the Railway works, but also in almost every article, many of which can only be treated as luxuries. It seems to us that this is an earnest of what may be expected in all parts of the country so soon as Railways are generally introduced, no matter by whose money and influence they are built. The vast possibilities of this country, when it is properly opened up are only foreshadowed but unfortunately the necessary confidence in the integrity of its Government has not yet been established.

SHANGHAI, 8th December.—(From Messrs. Alex. Bieffeld & Co.'s Report).—The week has again been very slack, the closing of the Northern ports putting a stop to a great deal of business. Native reports of the closing of Tientsin have been received, but so far these are not definitely confirmed by foreigners. Money is very tight, the Chinese banks charging unusually high interest even for this season of the year, and this of course further restricts business.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 15th December.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/4
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/4 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/4 1/2
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.49 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	54 1/2
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.02
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	48
Credits, 60 days' sight	49
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	146 1/2
Bank, on demand	146 1/2
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	146 1/2
Bank, on demand	146 1/2
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	71
Private, 30 days' sight	72 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	3 1/2 % pm
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	2 % pm
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	1 % pm
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	10.13
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine per taal	53.00

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 15th December.—A fair business has been transacted during the week and rates have ruled steady to strong except in Banks, which show a decline.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai in the early part of the week changed hands at 350 and later at 349 per cent. prem. in small lots and close with sellers at 348. Nationals remain quiet but steady at quotation with small sales.

MARINE INSURANCES.—The market has ruled very dull and no sales have been reported. Rates for the Northern Insurances are taken from the Shanghai circulars in the absence of local business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have changed hands at \$327 1/2 and close steady at that rate. Chinas have been placed in small lots at quotation (\$38).

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have remained steady at \$31 with sales, but close with sellers. Indos have further declined to \$32 without sales. Douglases have changed hands at \$50, \$51, \$52, and \$53, closing with sellers at \$53 1/2. China Manilas and China Mutuans unchanged and without business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars after fair sales at \$122 and \$121 have declined to \$120. Luzons have changed hands at quotation.

MINING.—Punjoms continue very dull with only small sales at the reduced rate of \$7 1/2. Preferences have found buyers at \$1.20. Great Easterns have been negotiated at 55 cents and 57 1/2 cents. Raubs at \$61, \$61 1/2, \$61 1/2, and close at \$61 1/2. Jelebus have changed hands at \$12 1/2 and \$12 1/2. Other stocks under this heading have ruled quiet and without business.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue dull and hard to move at quotation. Amoy Docks are still enquired for at \$20 without bringing shares on the market. Kowloon Wharves have improved to \$85 1/2 after sales at \$84, \$84 1/2, and \$85. Wanchais unchanged and with a small business.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have ruled firm and after sales at \$11 1/2, \$11 1/2, and \$11 1/2 are in demand at \$11 1/2. Hotels have found small buyers during the week at \$118 and \$119, closing with buyers at the latter rate. West Points have improved to \$34 after small sales at \$31 and \$32. Humphreys continue quiet with sellers at \$9.25 after sales at \$9.35 and \$9.25.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have further declined to \$26 with sales. Ices are enquired for at \$126 without bringing shares on the market. Electrics have declined to \$10 with sales and sellers. No business to report in other stocks under this heading.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	348 p. ct. prem. =
China & Japan, ordy.	24	21.
Do. deferred	21	25 5a.
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	28	\$29 1/2, sellers
Four. Shares	28	\$29 1/2, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	21	nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$14, buyers
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9 1/2, buyers
China Sugar	\$100	\$120, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 55
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 7 1/2
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 73.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 375
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 58, sellers
Hongkong	\$100	\$58, sellers
Dairy Farm	\$8	\$5, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$42 1/2, buyers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$28, sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$25.
Hongkong & C. Gas	210	\$127.
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$10, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$147 1/2.
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$119, buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$126, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$85, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$200, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	\$525 p. ct. prem. =
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$180, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$38, sales & buyers
China Traders'	\$25	\$58, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$327 1/2, sales & bys.
North-China	225	Tls. 190.
Straits	\$20	\$2 1/2, buyers
Union	\$50	\$237 1/2, seller.
Yangtze	\$60	\$110.
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$50	\$11 1/2, buyers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$9.10, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$28, sellers
West Point Building	\$50	\$34.
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$47, sales & sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$300, buyers.
Gt. Estn. & C'donian	\$5	55 cts., buyers
Do. Preference	\$1	40 cts., sellers
Jelebu	\$5	\$12 1/2, buyers
Queen's Mines Ltd.	25c.	30 cts., buyers
Oliver's Mines, A.	\$5	\$9.
Do. B.	\$4 1/2	\$6 1/2, sellers.
Punjom	\$6	\$7 1/2, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1.20, buyers
Raubs	15a. 10d.	\$61 1/2.
New Amoy Dock	\$6 1/2	\$20, buyers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$90, sellers
China Mutual Pref.	210	\$9 1/2, buyers
China Ordinary	210	\$9, buyers
Do.	25	\$5, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$53 1/2, sellers
H., Canton and M.	\$15	\$31, sellers
Indo-China S. N.	210	\$32, sellers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	£100	£240
Star Ferry	\$7 1/2	\$21, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do.	\$3	\$3.
United Asbestos	\$2	\$2
Do.	\$10	\$10, nominal
Wanchai Warehouse	\$37 1/2	\$45, sales & buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$15 1/2, sellers

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

SHANGHAI, 11th December.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report).—Tightness of money has restricted business, and caused a decline in some stocks. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Shares were sold to Hongkong at 349 per cent. premium, with exchange 71. A local sale has since been made at 345 per cent. premium, with exchange 73, which we quote as the closing rate. Marine Insurance.—Yangtze Insurance shares changed hands at \$110. Fire Insurance Chinas were placed to Hongkong at \$87 1/2. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. Co.—Our market has suffered a slight decline. Shares were placed at Tls. 64 for March, but business was afterwards done at Tls. 62 for December and Tls. 61 for February. Mining.—Jelebu Mining and Trading shares were placed locally at \$12. Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Shares in S. C. Farham & Co. was placed at Tls. 230, and Shanghai Engineering Ordinary shares at Tls. 100, and Preference shares at Tls. 107 1/2. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares have been weak, and business was done at Tls. 257 1/2 for December, and Tls. 260 for March. Lands.—Shanghai Land

Investment shares were sold at Tls. 85/84 cash, and Tls. 85 1/2 for December, and cash shares are wanted at Tls. 84s. Hongkong Land Investment shares were placed to Hongkong at \$112. Industrial.—Shanghai Gas shares have declined to Tls. 217 1/2. In Cotton Mill shares business was done.—E-Wos at Tls. 55, Internationals at Tls. 70/72 cash, Tls. 71 for December, and Tls. 75 for March, and Laou-kung-mow at Tls. 73. E-Wos are wanted cash and time. Shanghai Ice shares, New issue, were sold at Tls. 26 1/2 27 1/2 cash, and are in demand. Shares in the Shanghai Steam Laundry Co. having been allotted, we add the Co. to our list. Tugs & Cargo Boats.—Shanghai Cargo B at shares were sold at Tls. 185. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco shares were sold at Tls. 56. Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares were weak at up till the 9th, sales being made at Tls. 290 to Tls. 260 for March. On that date a favourable telegram was received, reporting a daily flow of 20,000 gallons of oil, and a strong demand set in, shares changing hands to-day at Tls. 300/320 cash, Tls. 310 for the 31st current, and Tls. 350 for March. There are cash sellers at Tls. 310. Hall and Holtz shares were sold at \$36 1/2, as there is no interim dividend to be declared. Loans.—Chinese Imperial E Loan Bonds were placed at Tls. 252 1/2, Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf 6 per cent Debentures at Tls. 105, and Shanghai Gas 6 per cent. at Tls. 101, plus the accrued interest in all cases as usual.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Coromandel (str.), Patroclus (str.), Diomed (str.), Antenor (str.), Socotra (str.), Japan (str.).
For LIVERPOOL DIRECT.—Tantalus (str.).
For BREMEN.—Prins Heinrich (str.).
For MARSEILLES.—Silesia (str.).
Hakata Maru (str.), Yarra (str.), Awa Maru (str.).
For HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Wittenberg (str.), Sarnia (str.), Ambria (str.).
For TRIESTE VIA STRAITS.—Vindobona (str.).
For SAN FRANCISCO.—China (str.), Nippon Maru (str.), Doric (str.).
For SAN DIEGO VIA KOBE.—Strathgyle (str.).
For VANCOUVER.—Empress of Japan (str.).
For VICTORIA, B.C., VIA SHANGHAI.—Saint Irene (str.).
For PORTLAND, O.—Monmouthshire (str.).
For NEW YORK.—Catanis (str.), Mary L. Cushing, Asama (str.), Afridi (str.).
For AUSTRALIA.—Futani Maru (str.), Chingtu (str.), Airlie (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

December—ARRIVALS.
8, Tritos, German str., from Saigon.
9, Parramatta, British str., from Bombay.
9, P. C. C. Klao, British str., from Bangkok.
9, Etna, Italian cruiser, from Woosung.
9, China, Amr. str., from San Francisco.
9, Phoenix, British cruiser, from Singapore.
9, Macduff, British str., from Singapore.
9, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
9, Seong Leong, British str., from Singapore.
10, Haitan, British str., from Swatow.
10, Idomeneus, British str., from Amoy.
10, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
10, Loyal, German str., from Haiphong.
10, Peiyang, German str., from Chefoo.
10, Salvadora, Amr. str., from Manila.
10, Aurora, British cruiser, from Weihaiwei.
10, Choyang, British str., from Canton.
10, Taiwan, British str., from Canton.
10, Quarta, German str., from Bangkok.
11, Singan, British str., from Tientsin.
11, Loongsang, British str., from Canton.
11, Wosang, British str., from Wuhu.
11, Hating, French str., from Haiphong.
11, Feiching, British str., from Amoy.
11, Vale of Doon, British bark, from Rajang.
11, Michael Jensen, Ger. str., from Canton.
11, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Canton.
11, Germania, German str., from Bangkok.
11, Kungping, Chinese str., from Taku.
12, Tosa Maru, Japanese str., from London.
12, Konigsberg, German str., from Moji.
12, Descartes, Fr. cr., from Kwongohwan.
12, Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.
12, Haiman, British str., from Tamsui.
12, Kinsang, British str., from Shanghai.
12, Mongkut, British str., from Bangkok.
12, Kiukiang, British str., from Canton.
12, Chowfa, British str., from Bangkok.
12, Foochow, British str., from Wuhu.
12, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.

13, Konig Albert, German str., from Shanghai.
 13, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
 13, Preussen, German str., from Bremen.
 13, Anping, Chinese str., from Tongku.
 13, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
 13, Glenlochy, British str., from London.
 13, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 13, Tamsui Maru, Japanese str., from Amoy.
 13, Japan, British str., from Yokohama.
 13, Hakata Maru, Japanese str., from Moii.
 13, Hoihao, French str., from Pakhoi.
 13, Kong Beng, British str., from Haiphong.
 13, Trym, Norwegian str., from Swatow.
 14, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
 14, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 14, Dardanus, British str., from Liverpool.
 14, Wongkoi, British str., from Bangkok.
 14, Gisela, Austrian str., from Trieste.
 14, Ningpo, British str., from Wuhu.
 14, Phra Nang, British str., from Bangkok.
 15, Progress, German str., from Tourn.
 15, Peiyang, German str., from Canton.
 15, Chunsang, British str., from Canton.
 15, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
 15, Viudobona, Austrian str., from Kobe.
 15, Bombay, British str., from London.
 15, Swatow, German str., from Haiphong.
 15, S. Rickmers, German str., from Foochow.
 15, Devawongse, British str., from Bangkok.
 15, Hailoong, British str., from Tamsui.
 15, Hong Leong, British str., from Penang.

December — DEPARTURES.

9, Clyde, British str., for Europe.
 9, Hongkong Maru, Jap. str., for S. Francisco.
 9, Swatow, German str., for Haiphong.
 9, West York, Amr. ship, for Honkohe Bay.
 9, Taicheong, German str., for Foochow.
 9, Airlie, British str., for Shanghai.
 9, Szechuen, British str., for Canton.
 9, Taisang, British str., for Swatow.
 9, Fukui Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 9, Katsuyama Maru, Jap. str., for Chefoo.
 9, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 9, Mazagon, British str., for Kobe.
 9, Fausang, British str., for Canton.
 9, Rosetta, British str., for Yokohama.
 10, Parramatta, British str., for Shanghai.
 10, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 10, Venus, Amr. str., for Manila.
 10, Afridi, British str., for Shanghai.
 10, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
 10, Undaunted, British str., for Kobe.
 10, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 10, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 10, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
 10, Deutschland, German str., for Bangkok.
 10, Gefion, German cruiser, for Bangkok.
 11, Plover, British g.-bt., for Manila.
 11, Brisk, British cruiser, for Kwongchowwan.
 11, Seong Leong, British str., for Amoy.
 11, Choyesang, British str., for Shanghai.
 11, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 11, Tategami Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 11, Hue, French str., for Haiphong.
 11, Macduff, British str., for Shanghai.
 11, Singan, British str., for Canton.
 11, Stromboli, Italian cruiser, for Singapore.
 12, Amigo, German str., for Haiphong.
 12, Peiyang, German str., for Canton.
 12, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 12, Hainan, German str., for Swatow.
 12, Wosang, British str., for Canton.
 12, Idomenus, British str., for London.
 12, Feiching, Chinese str., for Canton.
 12, Arratoon Apear, British str., for Calcutta.
 12, Kiukiang, British str., for Shanghai.
 13, Tetartos, German str., for Y'hama.
 13, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 13, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 13, Kinsang, British str., for Canton.
 13, Salvadora, American str., for Amoy.
 13, Holstein, German str., for Saigon.
 13, Foochow, British str., for Canton.
 13, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 13, Anping, Chinese str., for Canton.
 13, Loyal, German str., for Hongay.
 13, Tosa Maru, Japanese str., for Y'hama.
 13, Hating, French str., for Haiphong.
 13, Konig Albert, German str., for Europe.
 14, Preussen, German str., for Shanghai.
 14, Endymion, British cruiser, for Weihaiwei.
 14, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Canton.
 14, St. Mark, Amr. ship, for New York.
 14, Taichow, British str., for Hoihow.
 14, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
 14, Ningpo, British str., for Canton.
 14, Riojun Maru, Japanese str., for Seattle.

15, Aurora, British cruiser, for Manila.
 15, Alacrity, British des. ves., for Singapore.
 15, P. C. C. Kiao, British str., for Bangkok.
 15, Dardanus, British str., for Shanghai.
 15, Hakata Maru, Japanese str., for London.
 15, Esmeralda, British str., for Manila.
 15, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Parramatta*, for Hongkong, from Bombay, Messrs. K. Benjanji, J. A. Chinoy, N. D. Tata, N. K. Antia, C. O. Bhesania, N. B. Shroff and Mrs. E. M. Rapadia, child, infant and servant; from London, Dr. and Miss Paton, Messrs. C. F. Mitchell, F. Davis, S. H. Harrison, Mrs. A. F. Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. Baker and two children, Mrs. Reek, infant and boy, Mrs. B. M. Cameron and infant, Messrs. S. Rodda, A. P. Dunstan Bandmstr. Benzing, and Mr. M. N. de Lange; from Marseilles, Messrs. H. C. Sandford and A. Ross; from Penang, Mr. J. Vinton, Misses Haswell and Elna Haswell, Mrs. Peagrave, Mrs. Vinton, three children and infant; from Singapore, Messrs. Won Tong and servant, Won Quee, Lun W. Cho, Marcus Liva, Mohd. bin Ebrahim, Herranbin Ebrahim, Lee Chee Siang, Lee Siang Chope, S. Yakamatsu and Miss Kien; for Shanghai, from London, Messrs. Abdoolahoy Joosub, G. W. King, G. MacLeod, and S. W. Roberts, Mrs. and Miss Blackie, Mrs. Hewett and Mrs. Dowler's Amah; from Marseilles, Mr. Max Weiss; from Singapore, Messrs. W. R. McCallum and S. F. Wickham.

Per *China*, from San Francisco, &c., Mrs. T. B. Anderson, Master Anderson, Mrs. C. A. Adams, Mrs. F. M. Bostwick, Capt. H. C. Benson, Mrs. R. A. Brown, Mrs. A. W. Bryan, Mrs. B. Browning, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Bird, Mr. C. W. Bird, Mrs. E. Cromwell, Mrs. H. C. Clement, Miss Clement, Messrs. Chas. C. Cohn, S. P. Cadias, C. Davidson, Miss Davis, Mr. L. Dahl, Mrs. Major Downey and 2 children, Miss A. M. Davidson, Mrs. G. L. Edie, Miss Emery, Mr. H. Estinghausen, Mrs. W. W. Foote, Mrs. W. A. Daland, Misses B. Foote and E. Foote, Mrs. Col. Greenleaf, Miss Greenleaf, Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Gleason, Mr. C. A. Grubb, Lieut. H. S. Howland, Mr. C. R. Holcomb, Mrs. F. Harcieman and child, Mrs. T. S. Hutton, Mrs. F. O. Johnson, Miss M. B. Kip, Messrs. E. H. Litohfield, W. E. McGill, Mrs. H. B. McCoy, Messrs. F. Mills, T. D. McKay, A. Paulsen, Mr. and Mrs. F. Palmer, Messrs. O. Roditi, E. Ruppert, Miss Ray, Mrs. W. L. Steinberger, Miss B. Sperry, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Trotter, Mrs. S. J. Taylor, Mr. T. T. Windsor, General Franz Wolf, Mr. E. S. Willard, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Wilder, Messrs. M. Yamada, R. Magelmackers, Mrs. A. L. Parmenter, Miss G. Portman, Mrs. A. E. Ray, Mr. N. Sato, Mrs. A. Sperry, Miss G. Tracy, Mr. H. B. Taylor, Mrs. E. E. Walker, Miss K. Wilbur, Mrs. E. E. West, Mr. G. H. Waters, and Miss E. Wilkin-son.

Per *Preussen*, for Hongkong, from Southampton, Mr. and Mrs. Cottam and child, Mrs. Wheeler, Mrs. Christie and child, Mr. C. A. Nutton, and Mrs. v. d. Heyde; from Genoa, Messrs. Pichl, Martens, C. Pauli, H. Oldenburg, and Capt. Hemmet, Mr. and Mrs. Beauchamp, Mrs. Voetter (2), Miss Voetter, Miss Mirgay, Miss Eyre, and Miss Keswick; from Penang, Messrs. A. J. Rose and R. C. Nickelsen (2); from Singapore, Messrs. S. Goldschlug, T. Kelly, and S. Karsenly; for Shanghai, from Bremen, Messrs. T. Voss, H. Tapp, H. Freese, and Miss D. Muhlbach; from Southampton, Misses Brand, J. L. Dawson, Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Cooper and children, Misses Massey and Baleman, Mr. T. C. Hall, J. B. Cameron, Misses Riddal and Clarke, Rev. and Mrs. Walsh; from Antwerp, Mr. A. Paulsen; from Genoa, Messrs. T. L. Scott and Snethlage, Mrs. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. W. Jones, Mr. L. Rodewald, Mrs. v. der Heyde, Mr. and Mrs. M. Rohde and children, Miss E. Schmidt, Mrs. A. Knappe, Ziegenspeck and 2 children, Miss U. Blass, and Mr. A. Kaufmann; for Nagasaki, from Genoa, Mr. G. J. Suhr; from Penang, Mrs. Okiva Tatsuda and child; for Hiogo, from Southampton, Rev. and Mrs. Price and 3 children, Miss Golgey, and Miss Worthington; from Genoa, Miss Huhald; from Singapore, Messrs. K. Enomoto, T. Ischimoto, and S. J. Kamawaki; for Yokohama, from Bremen,

Mr. G. Melchers, Miss G. Sundermann; from Antwerp, Mr. A. Peters; from Southampton, Mrs. M. Nott, Rev. and Mrs. Bleby, and Miss Payne; from Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. Schrecken-hofer, and Dr. Zuzuki; from Naples, Capt. and Mrs. Gubler; from Colombo, Mr. E. Koppe; from Penang, Dr. N. Haak; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. von Lindholm, and Mr. O. Meyer.

DEPARTED.

Per *Clyde*, from Yokohama, for London, Mr. Mitchell; for Marseilles, Mr. J. W. Taylor; for Melbourne, Misses Calder and Lowe; for Bombay, Mr. A. G. Hudson; from Shanghai, for Marseilles, Messrs. Bax Ironside, A. Borgia-mino, and E. Coglislo; for Bombay, Mrs. Nicholson; for Singapore, Mr. G. L. Gratton; from Hongkong, for London, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Kilworth, Mr. O. Robbin and the three Misses Robbin, Mr. C. B. Ostberg, Miss Russell, Messrs. M. Blake, W. Bull, H. E. Wood, C. W. Bird, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Bird; for Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Grosvenor, Miss Brooksmith, Mr. F. B. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Mormeyn, Mr. and Mrs. D. Cameron, Miss A. C. Twining, Miss K. D. Hamilton, Count Monts; for Singapore, Mr. H. W. H. Stevens, Mrs. Christensen, and Mrs. Kempfack.

Per *Konig Albert*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Mr. and Misses Childs, Mrs. Newell, and Miss A. M. C. Davidson; for Penang, Mr. G. Hulsen; for Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Nugent and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Baldwin, Master S. Baldwin, Mrs. Iverson, Mr. and Mrs. Gruenhagen, Mr. H. B. Darnel, Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Brown; for Genoa, Dr. Stahl, Mr. and Mrs. Poate and child, Mr. R. H. Hill, Mr. and Mrs. F. Zulauf; from Yokohama, for Colombo, Mr. B. Napier; for Port Said, Mr. E. D. Robison; for Genoa, Messrs. H. W. Denison, S. Pohl, and F. Gebhardt, and Mrs. Rogers and children; for Southampton, Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Wilson and children, Mr. and Mrs. James Walter and son, Misses Dorsey and H. Schewe; for London, Mr. D. Finch and Capt. A. C. Robl; for Bremen, Capt. Kopfer and Brull, Messrs. Meidinger, von de Knexenbay, Wegener, Wehmeier, and Telchinanny; from Hiogo, for Singapore, Miss F. Myehara; for Colombo, Messrs. S. Werthoimer and Sellang; for Genoa, Messrs. H. Faber, T. Takeda, K. Ubani, S. Hino, T. Watanabe, F. Sakurai, K. Fistrum, and Miss Fox; from Nagasaki for Singapore, Messrs. M. Mess and A. Goldmann; for Bremen, Captain Obenheimer, Messrs. Boy, Klappenbach, and Barth; from Shanghai, for Singapore, Messrs. A. Karmanke, J. Halleaux, J. Oda, F. W. Griffiths, and Miss F. Oda; for Penang, Mr. W. H. Skakley; for Anterp, Mr. G. Devo; for Genoa, Messrs. E. M. Five, F. H. Craven, J. Binon, Theo. Kleemann, Sobell, and Zarnikow, Mrs. Bostelmann, Mrs. Derojensky, Miss E. Buren, Messrs. T. Chechas, Peels, N. Adair, and Miss M. E. Carleton; for London, Mr. G. Wm. Peacock, Mrs. Murray and baby, Mrs. Sartaine, Mrs. Freeman and child, and Miss Wilson; for Bremen, Capt. v. Meyerink, Messrs. Morabeger, Lebahm, Wetirkamp, Strasser, Schmidt, Beringe, Scharfenberg, Seendenberg, M. Lateik, and Tehly.

Per *Preussen*, for Shanghai, from Bremen, Messrs. T. Voss, H. Tapp, H. Freese, and Miss D. Muhlbach; from Southampton, Misses Brand, Mr. J. L. Dawson, Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Cooper and children, Misses Massey and Baleman, Mr. T. C. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Cameron, Misses Riddal and Clarke, Rev. and Mrs. Walsh; from Antwerp, Mr. A. Paulsen; from Genoa, Messrs. T. L. Scott and H. Snethlage, Mrs. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. W. Jones, Messrs. M. Rohde, L. Rodewald, Mrs. von der Heyde, Mrs. Rohde and children, Mr. and Mrs. H. Ziegenspeck, Mr. A. Haufmann, Misses A. Knappe and E. Schmidt; for Yokohama, from Bremen, Mr. G. Melchers, and Miss Lundermann; from Antwerp, Mr. A. Peters; from Southampton, Dr. Zuzuki, Mrs. M. Noss, and Mr. J. Schackenhafer; from Naples, Capt. Gubler; from Colombo, Mr. E. Koppe, from Singapore, Messrs. O. Meyer and von Lindholm; for Hiogo, from Singapore, Messrs. K. Enomoto, T. Ischimoto, and T. Hama-waki; for Nagasaki, from Penang, Mrs. O. Tatsuda; from Genoa, Mr. G. T. Ieba; from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mr. R. Fuhrmann, Dr. Little, Messrs. G. Spate, H. Schmidt, and von Butler; for Nagasaki, Mr. J. Panfuch.